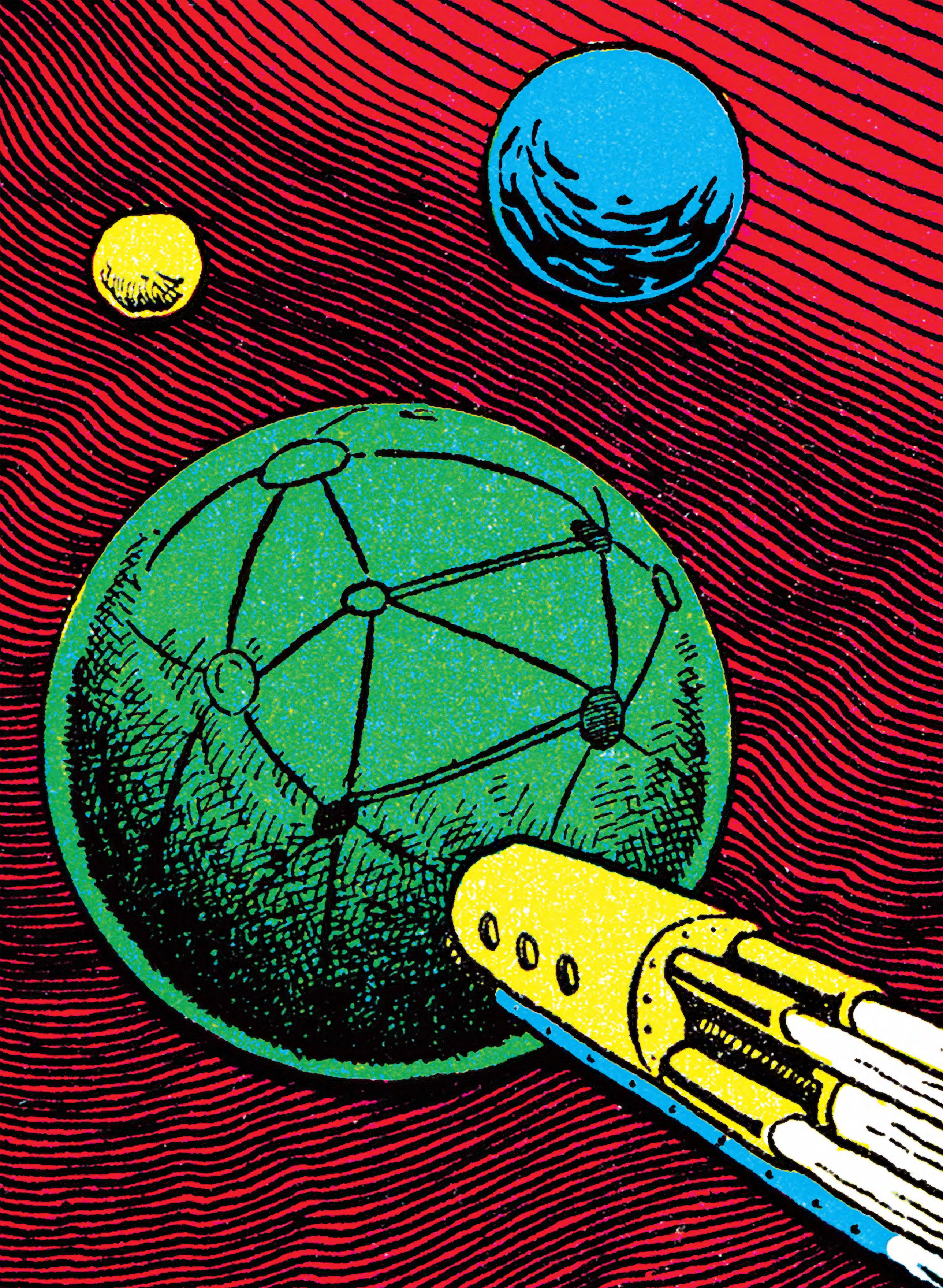
SPACEHAWK

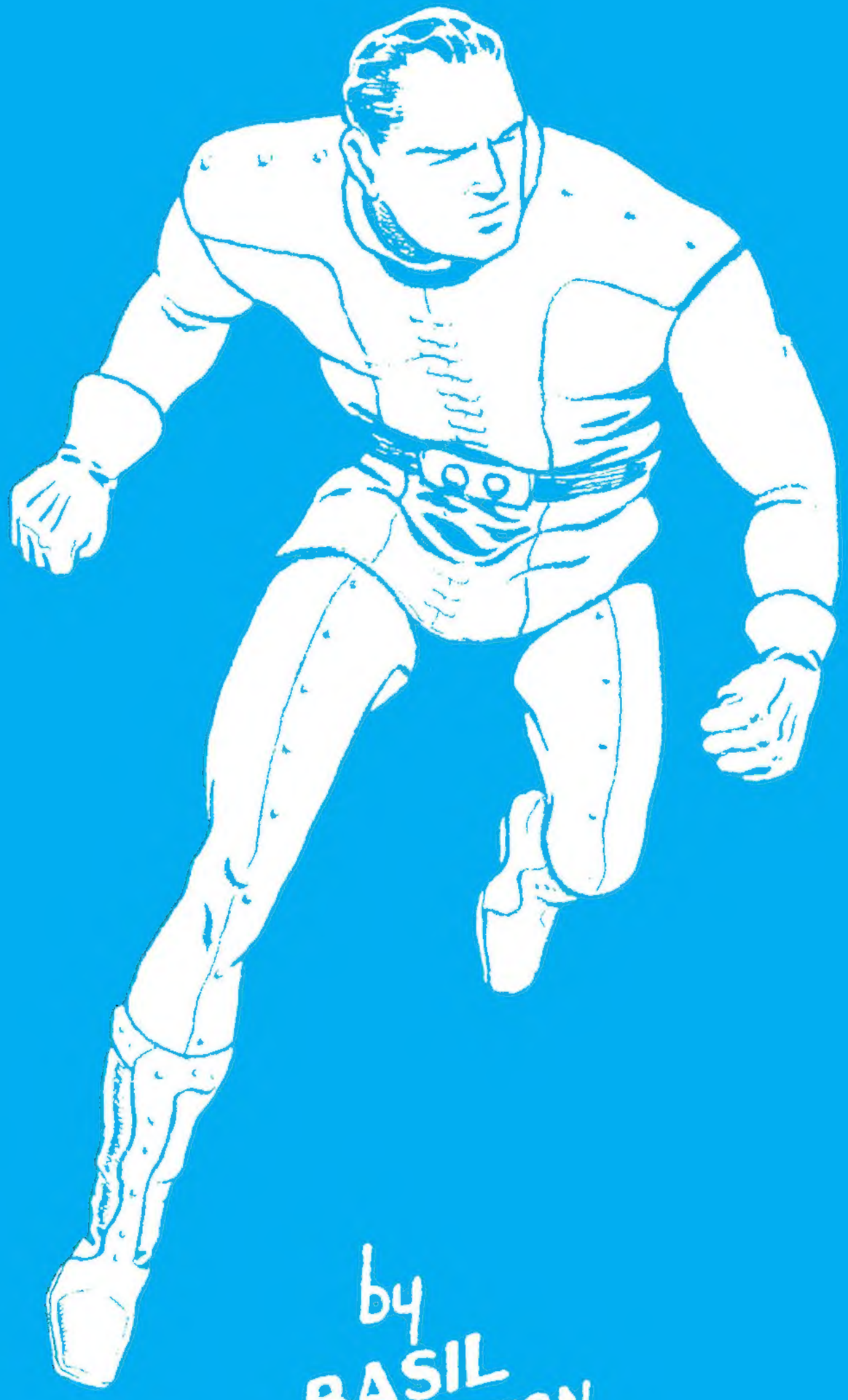
by

Basil Wolverton

SPACE HAWK



SPACEHAWK



by
BASIL
WOLVERTON

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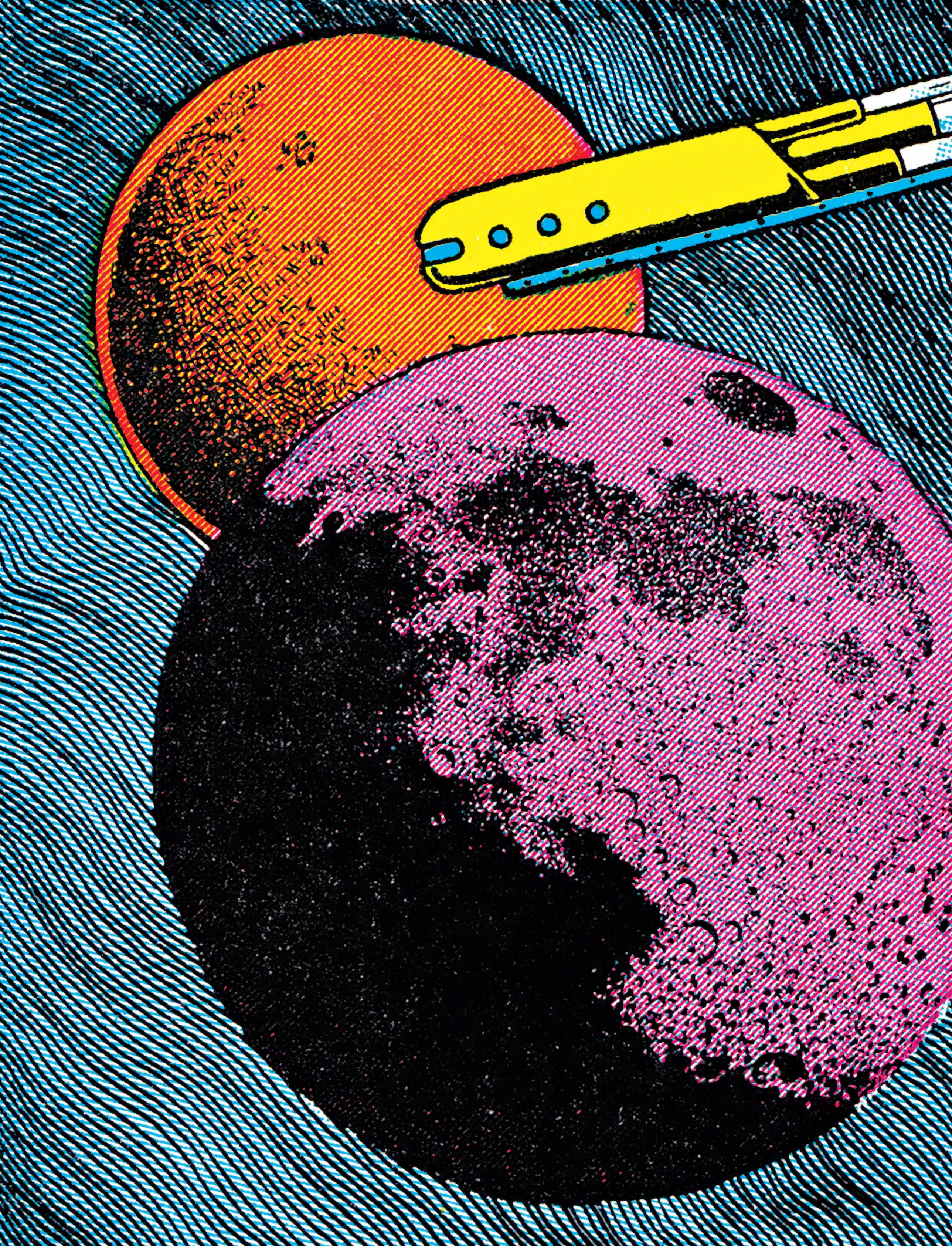

Spacehawk

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SPACEHAWK COVER 264
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All episodes of Spacehawk *were written and drawn by Basil Wolverton and appeared in* Target Comics, *published by Novelty Press, between 1940 and 1942. Spacehawk's only solo cover appearance was on* Target Comics *Vol. 1 No. 7, August 1940.*

Stories that were originally untitled have been assigned titles for this collection by Monte Wolverton, based on suggestions by The Grand Comics Database.

LONE WOLF OF THE VOID

by Monte Wolverton

Spacehawk, Basil Wolverton's most distinctive and initially most successful science fiction character, burst forth from the cosmos in June 1940. A little over two years later (after 30 adventures that filled 259 comics pages) he performed his last superheroic act — battling Japanese and Nazis in the American war effort.

That's the short version of the story. Here are the details.

From the time he was a teenager, Basil Wolverton's paramount goal in life was to create a syndicated newspaper comic strip. He left behind dozens of his attempts — most of which reside in various private art collections.

In 1929, at the age of 20, he almost realized his dream with a strip called *Marco of Mars*. Almost. The Independent Syndicate in New York had accepted his strip and was working with Wolverton to refine the product before releasing it to newspapers. But in 1930, with Buck Rogers preparing to fly to Mars in a rocket, The Independent Syndicate got cold feet. Readers, they said, would see Marco as an "out and out imitation." The comics market, apparently, could not tolerate *two* spacemen up there, flying around on Mars. (Flash Gordon didn't arrive until 1934, and when he did, *he* flew around on the planet Mongo. See the difference?)

It was a discouraging turn, but Wolverton continued to develop *Marco,* along with several other strip possibilities. None got off the ground. It would be seven more years before the president of Globe Syndicate, Monte Bourjaily (after whom I was apparently named), would offer Wolverton a part in the emerging medium of comics in the form of *magazines*. Imagine that!

One of Wolverton's proposals, *Steve Grover of the Stratosphere Patrol,* was renamed *Spacehawks*. It ran for two pages in 1938 in every issue of Bourjaily's new magazine, *Circus: The Comic Riot*. Unfortunately, the magazine lasted only three issues.

Undeterred, Wolverton sold six episodes of a similar feature named *Space Patrol* to *Amazing Mystery Funnies* from 1939 to 1940. In *Space Patrol,* Nick Nelson (who could serve as a visual stunt double for the later Spacehawk) and his Martian gunner, Kodi, are part of a solar system police force. It was in this feature that Wolverton introduced the unique alien life forms that would characterize his comics work for the next several years.

Finally, while *Space Patrol* was still being published, editor Lloyd Jacquet of Funnies, Incorporated called on Wolverton to create a space feature for his new magazine, *Target Comics*. The Spacehawk was born.

The mysterious, green-suited "lone wolf of the void" is different from other space heroes of the late '30s. Although he seems to be human, his physical and mental abilities are far superior. Assisted by a crew of telepathically controlled robots, he patrols the solar system in a rocket ship loaded with fantastically advanced technology that only he understands. He acts as sheriff, judge, jury, and (often) executioner as he eradicates evil and protects the innocent.

Unlike Flash Gordon or Buck Rogers, Spacehawk is not a particularly romantic figure. Rather, he is the embodiment of rational utilitarianism. There is little or no ornamentation or spacey design elements for Spacehawk or his equipment — just the heavy, riveted boilerplates of solid practicality. The feature has an industrial, almost steampunkish quality that would not show up until decades later in science fiction design.

Spacehawk's personality is pretty much the same. He is driven entirely by his mission — to champion law and order throughout interplanetary space. He has chosen this solar system in which to perform his "unpleasant" duty as long as he lives, and he admits to already being 800 years old. He doesn't seem to be subject to the internal struggles, passions, emotions, and ethical failings of normal human beings. He is certainly not plagued by anything like vanity and egotism. We must ask ourselves — is he human at all?

He has access to seemingly unlimited energy sources. He's impossibly multi-disciplined. Not only can he design, invent, manufacture, and repair all his own equipment, he can perform medical miracles — accelerating evolution for certain creatures when it is to their benefit.

We don't know who he answers to, if anyone. He seems fully autonomous and independent of any governmental system. While he apparently works in accord with some universal code of ethics, he doesn't waste his time and resources bringing criminals to institutional justice — he simply obliterates them.

This is the essential Spacehawk as originally conceived by Wolverton — the Spacehawk of the first nine episodes. But ultimately, even the Spacehawk must answer to beings more powerful than even he could imagine. Those beings turned out to be the editors, publishers, and the feds. Beginning with the April 1941 issue of *Target Comics* ("Spacehawk and the Artificial Japanese Planetoid"), the editors (perhaps in cooperation with a plan devised by U.S. government propagandists) ordered Wolverton to bring Spacehawk down to Earth to fight the Axis powers and defend America.

Although he was certainly patriotic, Wolverton protested, believing that the loss of the fantastic outer space element would spell the demise of his feature. Unfortunately, he was right (although on the plus side, Spacehawk lasted longer than many other contemporary Golden Age comics superheroes).

Spacehawk spent the next 20 episodes battling earthly, stereotypical Japanese and Nazis. In the best of these stories, Wolverton cast exotically evil Axis sympathizers such as Dr. Gore as villains, yet in other episodes, Spacehawk was reduced (presumably by editors who suggested the topic) to battling mundane tire thieves. (During World War II, with rubber in critically short supply, tire theft was considered to be nearly treasonous). In the end, Spacehawk had served his purpose and the feature was discontinued.

In recent years, a few cartoonists have sought to reinvent and carry on the Spacehawk legend. Some are clearly better than others at tapping into the essential Spacehawk character. Others miss the point entirely, with an all-too-human, temperamental character who resembles the original Spacehawk in name only.

It's possible that someday we may see a successfully resurrected, reconstituted Spacehawk, whether in print, animation, or live action. It will be difficult, however, to match the original, because that Spacehawk is a product of the historical and cultural context in which he was created. He is perfect. (America needed perfect, unflawed superheroes at the time.) He is not politically correct or culturally or ethnically sensitive. (America was only beginning to work on such qualities at the time.) While he wears a green outfit, he is not necessarily eco-friendly. (America had no clue what that meant at the time.)

But now, at long last, enjoy the real, no-nonsense, *Spacehawk* — direct from the fearsome world of the early 1940s. You may find yourself wishing that this superhuman enemy of crime, this lone wolf of the void, this powerful and mysterious champion of law and order would come swooping down from the stratosphere to put right our own fearsome world of the 2010s.

MONTE WOLVERTON *is a cartoonist, illustrator, designer, editor, and writer whose work has appeared in* Mad *magazine, among other places. He is the son of Basil Wolverton. He is former managing editor of* Plain Truth *magazine. His political cartoons are syndicated worldwide by Cagle Cartoons.*

LONE WOLF

of

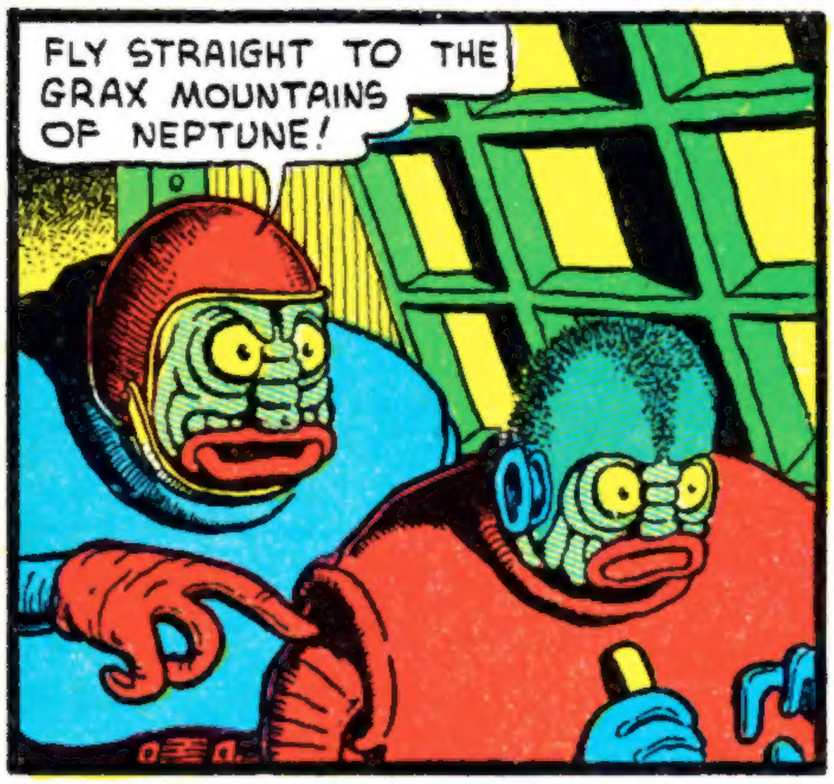
THE VOID

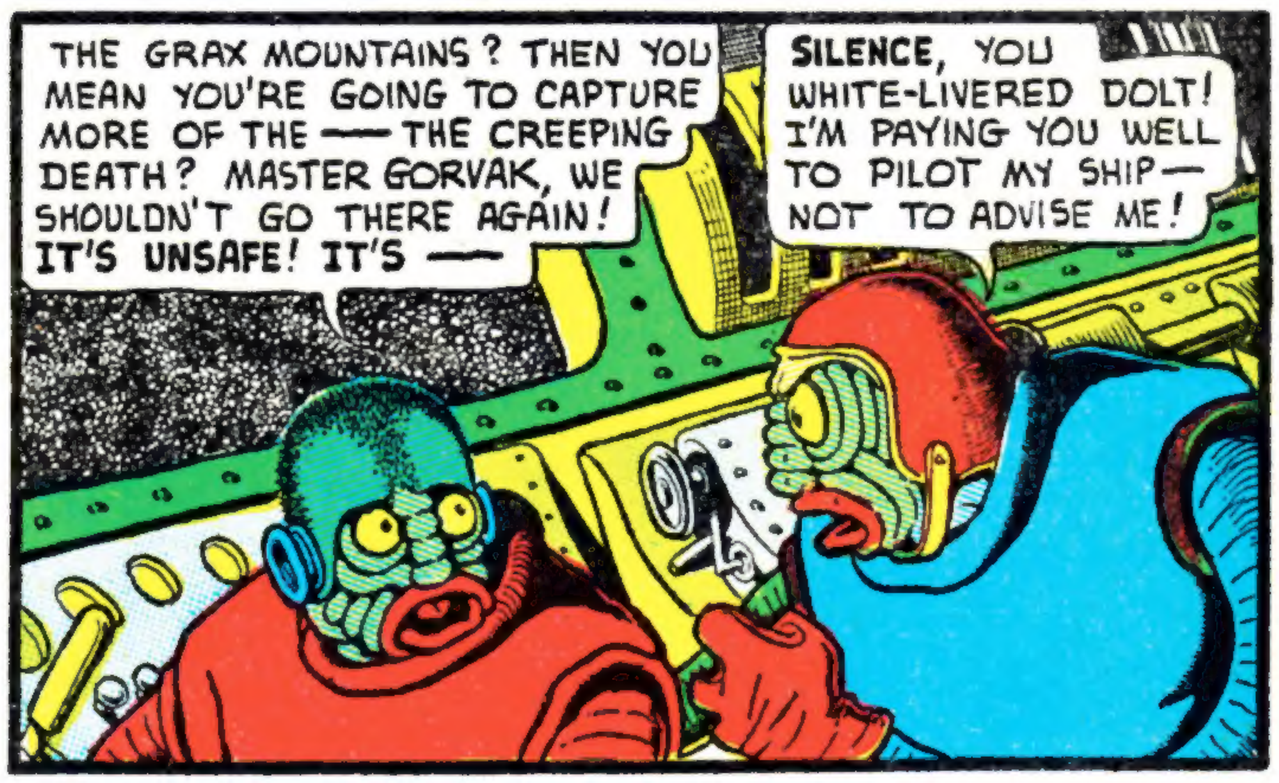
SPACEHAWK and the CREEPING DEATH from NEPTUNE

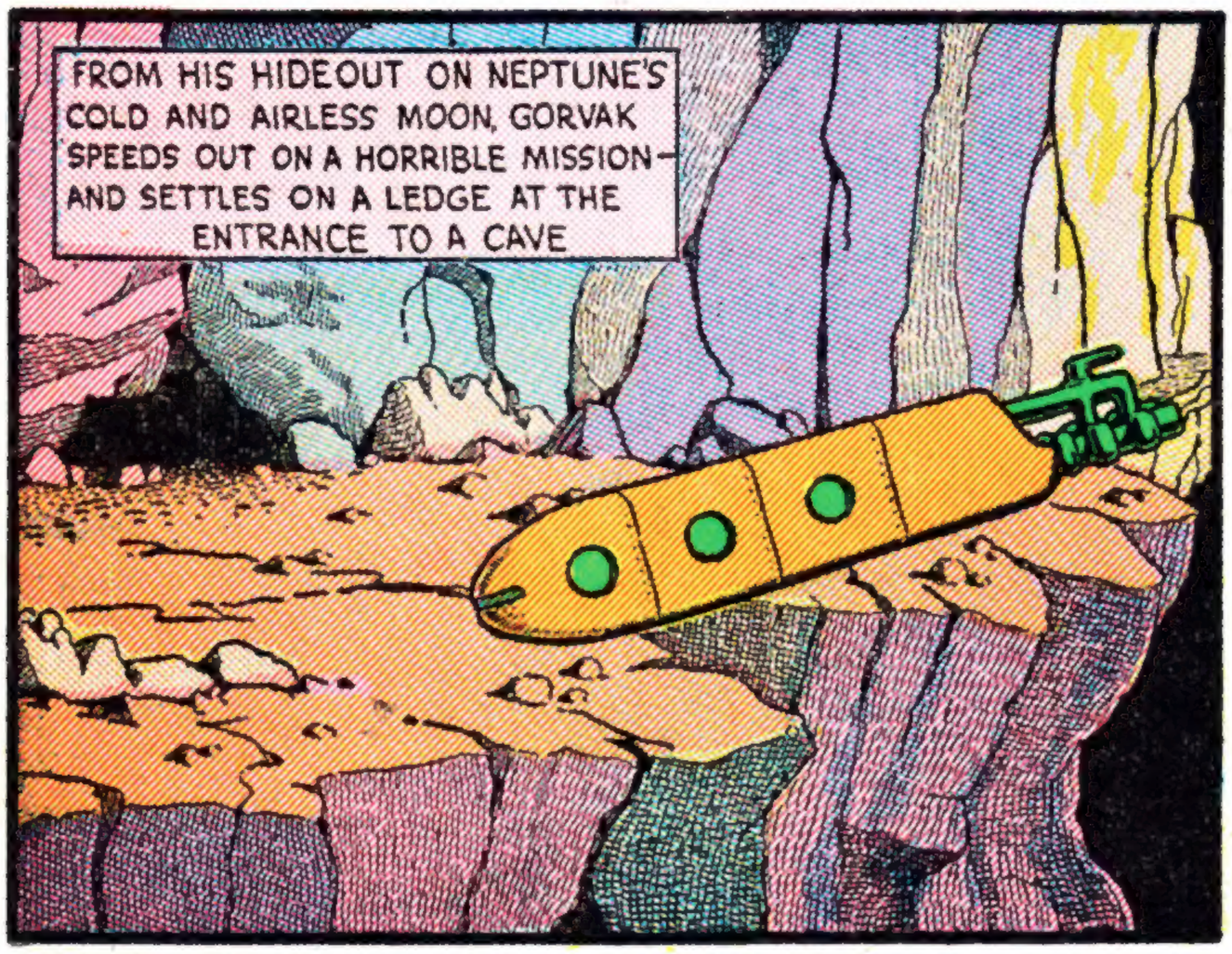
WITH THE COMING OF INTERPLANETARY TRAVEL, THE LEGIONS OF THE LAW FIND IT IMPOSSIBLE TO COPE WITH THE PIRATES, KILLERS, AND OTHER CRIMINALS LURKING IN SPACE... THEN, APPARENTLY OUT OF NOWHERE COMES THE SUPERHUMAN ENEMY OF CRIME, THE MYSTERIOUS **SPACEHAWK!**

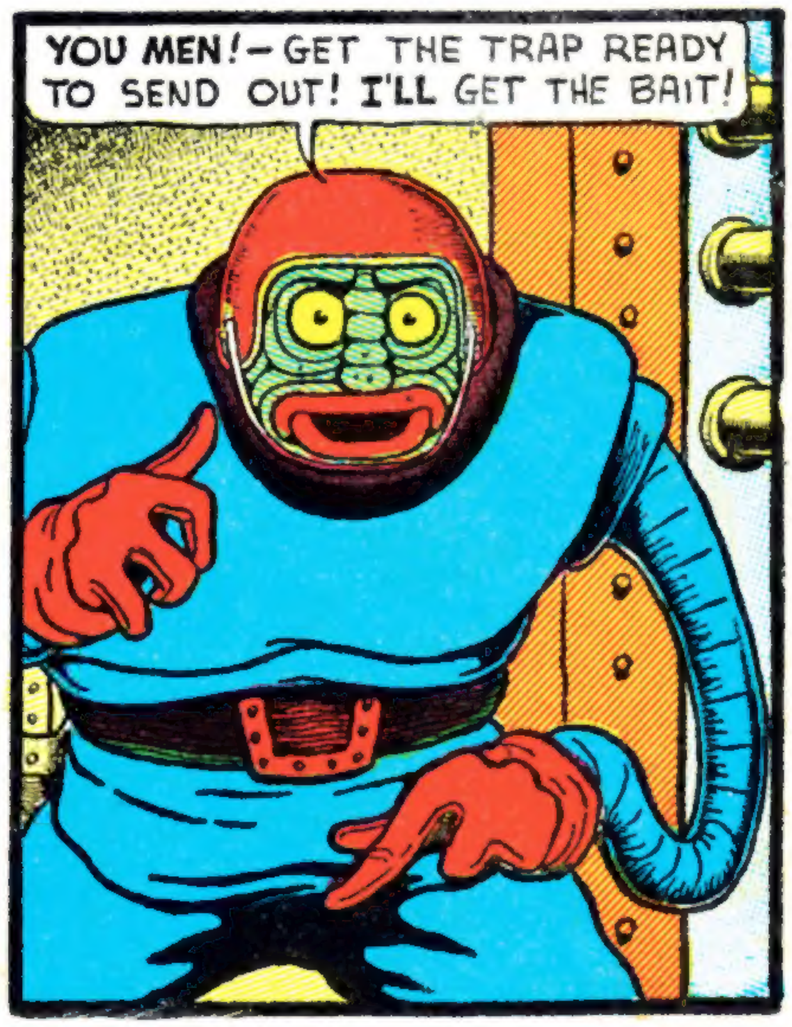
THEREAFTER, BANDITS OF THE VOID BEGIN TO DISAPPEAR, FOR THEY SOON LEARN TO FEAR THE AMAZING POWERS OF THE **SPACEHAWK** WHO ALWAYS STRIKES WITHOUT WARNING

FOR EXAMPLE, HERE IS THE CASE OF GORVAK, NOTORIOUS MARTIAN SPACE PIRATE WHO BOASTS HE IS TOO CLEVER TO BE CAUGHT BY THE **SPACEHAWK** ...




THE GRAX MOUNTAINS? THEN YOU MEAN YOU'RE GOING TO CAPTURE MORE OF THE — THE CREEPING DEATH? MASTER GORVAK, WE SHOULDN'T GO THERE AGAIN! IT'S UNSAFE! IT'S —
SILENCE, YOU WHITE-LIVERED DOLT! I'M PAYING YOU WELL TO PILOT MY SHIP— NOT TO ADVISE ME!


FROM HIS HIDEOUT ON NEPTUNE'S COLD AND AIRLESS MOON, GORVAK SPEEDS OUT ON A HORRIBLE MISSION— AND SETTLES ON A LEDGE AT THE ENTRANCE TO A CAVE



GORVAK GOES TO THE SHIP'S PRISON COMPARTMENT AND UNLOCKS ONE OF THE DOORS.

ALL RIGHT, YOU! COME ON OUT!

WHEN I GIVE ORDERS, I EXPECT ACTION! NOW STEP LIVELY!

HERE'S OUR BAIT! PUT HER IN THE TRAP, AND MAKE SURE SHE CAN'T GET OUT OF IT!

THE GIRL IS CLAMPED IN A LARGE METAL CYLINDER—

THE APPARATUS IS EXTENDED FROM THE SHIP TOWARD THE MOUTH OF THE CAVE—

KEEP YOUR EYES OPEN! THE SECOND IT GETS INTO THE TRAP, RELEASE THE SHUTTER AND HAWL IT IN!

MINUTES DRAG BY...THEN ONE OF THE MARTIANS GIVES A SHOUT.

THERE IT COMES!

FROM THE BLACK DEPTHS OF THE CAVE A SHAPELESS WHITE MASS CRAWLS INTO VIEW—

IT SLITHERS UP TO THE TRAP—

AND SLOWLY CLIMBS THE METAL CYLINDER.

TERROR-STRICKEN, THE EARTH GIRL SEES THAT IT IS ABOUT TO SEIZE HER..

SUDDENLY A BOLT OF FIRE HISSES DOWN UPON THE CREEPING THING.

WRITHING IN TORTURE, IT CRAWLS SWIFTLY BACK INTO THE CAVE—

CHEATED OF HIS INTENDED PREY, GORVAK FLIES INTO A RAGE.

OPEN THE DOOR! I'M GOING OUT AND KILL WHOEVER FIRED THAT BOLT OF FLAME!

AS GORVAK REACHES THE SHIP'S OUTER DOOR, A FIGURE COMES INTO VIEW FROM ABOVE THE CAVE'S ENTRANCE —

THE MARTIAN LOOKS UP — AND HALTS IN HIS TRACKS

THE SPACEHAWK!

ALL RIGHT, GORVAK! COME AND GET ME — IF YOU HAVE THE NERVE!

QUICK! CUT THE TRAP LOOSE AND LET'S GET OUT OF HERE!

WITH A ROAR OF BLAST PROPELLERS, THE PIRATE SHIP LEAPS INTO THE AIR —

FULL SPEED TO THE OTHER SIDE OF NEPTUNE!

I TOLD YOU WE'D RUN INTO TROUBLE! WE'LL NEVER ESCAPE FROM THE SPACEHAWK!

WHO SAYS WE'RE TRYING TO ESCAPE? I, GORVAK, NEVER FLEE FROM MY ENEMIES! I **OUTWIT** THEM — AND THAT'S WHAT I'M DOING **NOW!**

MEANWHILE THE SPACEHAWK FREES THE GIRL FROM THE TRAP

YOU — YOU'RE THE SPACEHAWK!

AND JUST IN TIME, MISS! IF THAT PROTOPLASMIC CREATURE FROM THE CAVE HAD REACHED YOU, IT WOULD HAVE DEVOURED YOU! THIS OLD-FASHIONED FLAME GUN IS THE ONLY KIND OF WEAPON THAT MONSTROSITY RESPECTS! NOW LET'S GET AWAY FROM HERE!

THE SPACEHAWK, LIFTED BY THE CONTROLLABLE ANTI-GRAVITY ELEMENT IN HIS ATTIRE, CARRIES THE GIRL OUT OF THE ABYSS —

HERE'S MY SHIP. I'LL TAKE YOU TO THE NEAREST SPACE SHIP TERMINAL, AND YOU CAN GET PASSAGE FROM THERE. DON'T WORRY ABOUT FALLING CAPTIVE AGAIN TO GORVAK! HE HAS CAPTURED HIS LAST SHIP!

BUT HOW CAN YOU SAY THAT? GORVAK IS STILL AT LARGE!

THE SPACEHAWK LANDS ON ONE OF THE VEGETABLE BUBBLES, AND PREPARES TO SEARCH FOR GORVAK. HE KNOWS THAT THE MARTIAN HAS INTENDED TO HIDE ON THAT SIDE OF THE PLANET, FOR HE HAS READ IT IN GORVAK'S MIND.

BY MEANS OF SENSITIVE INSTRUMENTS HE "FEELS" THE REGION FOR CERTAIN DELICATE VIBRATIONS FROM GORVAK'S SHIP —

THE APPARATUS SHOWS THAT THE PIRATE SHIP IS NOT WITHIN THOUSANDS OF MILES, AND THE SPACEHAWK FLIES ON TO THE UNEXPLORED TUNNEL COUNTRY OF THE NORTH.

AT THE MOUTH OF ONE OF THE THOUSANDS OF TUNNELS BORED BY HUGE EXTINCT ANTS, HE FINALLY CATCHES THE VIBRATIONS FROM GORVAK'S SHIP.

THEY CAN'T BE MUCH MORE THAN A MILE AWAY NOW. I'LL HAVE TO HUNT FOR THEM AFOOT THE REST OF THE WAY, OR THEY MIGHT TUNE IN THE APPROACH OF MY SHIP.

THE SPACEHAWK SETS OUT AT A SWIFT PACE.

A SHORT DISTANCE AWAY HE IS CONFRONTED BY A BAT-MAN.

STAND ASIDE OR I'LL FIRE!

NO FIRE! I KNOW YOU SPACEHAWK! I FRIEND!

YOU LOOK FOR PIRATE SHIP? YOU FIND HIM 'ROUND BEND. ALL TIME HE COME HIDE HERE, KILL MY PEOPLE! WE HELP YOU GET HIM, MAYBE, HUH?

THANKS! I DON'T BELIEVE I'LL NEED ANY HELP, BUT IF I DO, I'LL SHOUT!

MOVING ONWARD, HE COMES WITHIN SIGHT OF HIS GOAL, AND THE THOUGHT IMPULSES HE RECEIVES FROM THE PIRATE SHIP WARN HIM OF A SINISTER PLOT TAKING FORM WITHIN IT —

NOW LISTEN, YOU SNIVELING LOUTS! WHEN I, GORVAK, HAVE A PLAN, I GO THRU WITH IT, SPACEHAWK OR NO SPACEHAWK! I SAY HE'LL NEVER CATCH UP TO US AGAIN, SO STOP YOUR SQUAWKING!

WE'LL TAKE THE TANK OF LIVE PROTOPLASM WE CAPTURED THE FIRST TRIP, AND POUR IT INTO CONTAINERS WITH RADIO LOCKS ON THEM. THEN WE'LL PLANT THE CONTAINERS IN THE CONTROL ROOMS OF SEVERAL LARGE SPACE FREIGHTERS. BY MEANS OF THIS KEY WAVE PROJECTOR, WE CAN OPEN THE CONTAINERS AT WILL!

WHEN THE CREEPING DEATH GETS AT THE THROATS OF THE CREWS, THOSE SHIPS WILL BE OURS WITHOUT HAVING TO RISK A SERIES OF BATTLES WITH THEM. ALL WE'LL HAVE TO DO IS RUN THEM DOWN, TOW THEM TO THE NEAREST HIDEOUT AND WAIT FOR A FEW DAYS FOR THE PROTOPLASM TO DIE OF STARVATION! NOW GET BUSY AND PREPARE THE STUFF!

WORKING CAREFULLY, LEST THEY ALLOW ANY OF THE DEADLY PROTOPLASM TO ESCAPE, THE PIRATES START TRANSFERRING IT TO THE METAL CONTAINERS—

MEANWHILE, THE SPACEHAWK SILENTLY BURNS A HOLE IN THE SHIP'S HULL BY MEANS OF A SMALL FLAME GUN.

AS SOON AS THE METAL COOLS, HE SQUEEZES THRU THE OPENING.

THERE! THAT SHOULD TEACH YOU NOT TO MEDDLE IN MY PLANS!

JUST THEN, GORVAK SNUFFS OUT THE LIFE OF HIS PILOT, BECAUSE HE SAID HE DID NOT KNOW WHERE THE KEY WAVE PROJECTOR WAS...THEN—

NO DOUBT EVERY ONE OF YOUR CREW DESERVES EVEN WORSE TREATMENT THAN THAT, GORVAK, BUT DON'T YOU THINK YOU'RE JUST A LITTLE BIT **TOO** ROUGH WITH THEM?

HUH?

THE **SPACEHAWK!** —**AGAIN!**

RIGHT! YOU DIDN'T THINK YOU WERE GOING TO ESCAPE FROM ME, DID YOU?

WELL — WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?

DON'T WORRY ABOUT WHAT I'M GOING TO DO! START WORRYING ABOUT WHAT YOU'RE GOING TO DO!

GORVAK'S HAND STEALTHILY SLIPS TOWARD HIS ATOM GUN...

WITH THE SPEED OF LIGHT, THE SPACEHAWK WHIPS OUT HIS OWN GUN AND FIRES A BOLT OF ENERGY THAT MEETS THE MARTIAN'S CHARGE IN MID AIR —

DROP THAT GUN! IT WON'T DO YOU ANY GOOD IF YOU CAN'T DRAW AND FIRE ANY FASTER THAN THAT!

KALAK! BORU! GET IN HERE AT ONCE! I NEED HELP!

IT'S THE SPACEHAWK! HE'S IN THERE WITH GORVAK!

THE SPACEHAWK? QUICK! WE MUST GET OUT OF HERE BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE!

FROM WHAT I CAN SEE FROM THIS WINDOW, GORVAK, IT LOOKS LIKE YOUR MEN HAVE RUN OUT ON YOU, — AND THEY WON'T BE BACK!

GIVE ME A CHANCE! I'LL GIVE YOU A FORTUNE IF YOU'LL LET ME GO! IF YOU DO AWAY WITH ME NOW, MY CACHES WILL NEVER BE FOUND, AND THEY'LL NEVER DO ANY ONE ANY GOOD!

I CAN READ YOUR FOUL THOUGHTS LIKE A BOOK! I KNOW NOW WHERE YOU'VE HIDDEN ALL YOUR LOOT, AND I'LL SEE THAT IT ALL GETS BACK INTO THE PROPER HANDS!

AS FOR GIVING YOU A CHANCE — WELL,- I'LL BREAK BOTH OUR ATOM GUNS AND MY FLAME GUN. THAT WILL PUT US ON AN EVEN FOOTING!

LOCKED IN GRIPS OF STEEL, THE MEN STRUGGLE WITH THE FURY OF DEMONS.

FINALLY GORVAK GETS HIS TENTACLE-LIKE ARMS CLAMPED AROUND THE SPACEHAWK'S THROAT, AND DESPERATELY HANGS ON —

HA! SEE THE MIGHTY SPACEHAWK NOW! NOTHING BUT A BLUFFING BAG OF TRICKS — AND JUST TO MAKE CERTAIN HE DOESN'T PULL ANOTHER ONE, I'LL MAKE USE OF THIS STEEL ROPE! IF ONLY I HAD THAT KEY WAVE PROJECTOR, I'D-

SUDDENLY THE PIRATE REMEMBERS THAT HE HIMSELF PUT IT IN ONE OF THE LOCKERS....

NOW TO ENJOY A VERY SATISFYING SPECTACLE! I SUPPOSE I SHOULD WAIT, THOUGH, UNTIL HE COMES TO! THEN HE'LL APPRECIATE WHAT THAT PROTOPLASM CAN DO WHEN IT'S HUNGRY!

GORVAK, UNABLE TO RESTRAIN HIMSELF, SETS THE PROJECTOR IN ACTION —

THE CAP ON ONE OF THE CONTAINERS FLIES OPEN. A WHITE MASS OOZES FORTH....

IT DROPS TO THE FLOOR AND SPREADS OUT, FEELING ITS WAY TOWARD THE SPACEHAWK...

IT'S A PITY YOU'RE UNCONSCIOUS, MR. SPACEHAWK, BECAUSE YOU'RE MISSING SOMETHING **VERY** INTERESTING!

GORVAK WATCHES FROM A SAFE DISTANCE...

TO THE MARTIAN'S AMAZEMENT, HIS CAPTIVE SUDDENLY GETS UP AND CALMLY BREAKS HIS STEEL BONDS AS THOUGH THEY ARE MADE OF PAPER.....

I'M NOT MISSING A THING, GORVAK! I'VE LET YOU HAVE ENOUGH FUN. NOW YOU ARE GOING TO DIE BY YOUR OWN INFERNAL DEVICE!

THE PIRATE, TERROR-STRICKEN, TRIES TO DASH FOR SAFETY, BUT HE IS SNATCHED AND FLUNG BACK INTO THE ROOM..

RIPPING A LEVER FROM THE CONTROL PANEL, THE SPACEHAWK JAMS THE METAL DOOR SHUT WITH A FEW POWERFUL BLOWS, SEALING GORVAK TO A HORRIBLE DOOM WITH THE CREEPING DEATH.

LET ME OUT! LET ME OUT! IT'S GOING TO GET ME!

IN HIS HYSTERICAL EFFORTS TO ESCAPE THE PROTOPLASM, THE MARTIAN STUMBLES DIRECTLY INTO IT.

IN A MOMENT IT TIGHTLY ENCIRCLES HIS NECK, AND CRAWLS HUNGRILY UPON HIS FACE....

THE SPACEHAWK HURRIES BACK TO HIS SHIP....

BY MEANS OF A POWERFUL MAGNETIC CONTROLLER, HE DRAGS THE PIRATE CRAFT FROM THE TUNNEL —

OUTSIDE OF NEPTUNE'S ATMOSPHERE, HE DIRECTS THE PIRATE SHIP TOWARD THE SUN, AND RELEASES IT.

WELL, THERE'S ANOTHER JOB DONE! IT WON'T BE LONG BEFORE THAT SHIP, ITS CONTAINERS OF PROTOPLASM AND WHAT'S LEFT OF GORVAK THE PIRATE ARE ALL BLASTED TO ATOMS IN THE SUN'S PHOTOSPHERE!

WHO IS THE SPACEHAWK? DON'T MISS HIS AMAZING ADVENTURE IN THE NEXT ISSUE!

THE PACEHAWK

by BASIL WOLVERTON

SUDDENLY THE PEACEFULNESS OF THE PLACE IS BROKEN BY THE THUNDEROUS ROAR OF PROPELLER ROCKETS, AND A SPACE SHIP DIVES DOWN FROM THE THICK VENUSIAN CLOUDS.

BELOW, A HEAD EMERGES FROM THE WATER, AND STRANGE EYES PEER UP AT THE CRAFT...

TUOK! A MERCURIAN SHIP IS CRUISING ABOVE THE LAKE!

DO NOT BE ALARMED, BORLO! SURELY THEY CANNOT KNOW THAT WE, THEIR MERCURIAN BROTHERS, ARE DWELLING WITHIN THESE WATERS!

MEANWHILE THE SPACE SHIP COMES TO A HALT JUST ABOVE THE WATER, AND A POWERFUL BEAM OF LIGHT STABS DOWNWARD.

INSIDE, TWO MERCURIANS GAZE INTO THE PATH OF THE BEAM—

OUR SEARCH IS ENDED, GREBO! THE BED OF THE LAKE IS COVERED WITH MERCURIAN TYPE DWELLINGS!

FOR CENTURIES MEN OF OUR RACE HAVE SOUGHT THE LOST TRIBE OF MERCURY AND THE TREASURE WITH WHICH THEY FLED WHEN OUR ANCESTORS CAPTURED THEIR CITY! AT LAST I, GREBO, DESCENDANT OF THEIR CONQUERORS, HAVE DISCOVERED THEIR ABODES, SUNKEN IN A LAKE'S MIRE!

ROGG, TELL THE MEN TO EQUIP TWO SPACE SUITS WITH COOLING SYSTEMS! YOU AND I WILL NO DOUBT FIND THE DROWNED ONES' RICHES WELL PRESERVED, AND THERE WILL BE NO ONE TO STOP US FROM TAKING WHAT WE FIND!

WELL ARMORED, GREBO AND ROGG LEAP INTO THE TEPID WATERS OF THE DRAX —

—AND PLUMMET TO THE BOTTOM.

THERE, IN THE TOMB-LIKE SILENCE OF THE SHADOWY CITY, THEY MOVE SLOWLY ABOUT — AND THEY SEE

GREBO, I SWEAR I SAW A HUMAN FORM DART THRU THAT DOOR!

THAT'S ABSURD! YOU MUST HAVE SEEN A FISH!

THEY LOOK ONLY HALF HUMAN, AND YET THEY'RE MAKING FRIENDLY SIGNS!

THE MERCURIANS ARE EVEN MORE AMAZED WHEN THEIR SENSITIVE RECEIVERS CATCH THE SOUNDS OF THEIR OWN LANGUAGE —

GREETINGS, MERCURIANS! WE, THE DRAXIONS, ONCE OF YOUR PLANET, HAVE ALWAYS EXPECTED YOUR ARRIVAL. WE HOPE YOU ARE FRIENDLY. OUR ONLY DESIRE IS TO LIVE IN PEACE!

WHAT? YOU MEAN THAT YOU, LIVING HERE UNDER WATER, ARE DESCENDANTS OF THE LOST TRIBE OF MERCURY?

THAT IS TRUE! OUR FORBEARS GRADUALLY DEVELOPED THE PHYSICAL MEANS TO LIVE IN THIS WATER. NOW THERE ARE HUNDREDS OF US!

ASTOUNDING, BUT I'M NOT SO INTERESTED IN YOUR HISTORY AS I AM IN GETTING THE PLATINUM WITH WHICH YOUR TRIBE ESCAPED!

WHAT MAKES YOU THINK WE HAVE THAT PLATINUM AFTER ALL THESE CENTURIES?

I INTEND TO FIND OUT! TELL ME WHERE IT IS, OR YOU DIE!

I WILL TELL YOU NOTHING!

GREBO BRUTALLY PRESSES THE ELECTRON GUN TRIGGER, AND A BLADE OF FLAME STABS THRU TUOK, CHIEF OF THE DRAXIONS...

THE SAME FOR **YOU**, UNLESS YOU SHOW US THAT PLATINUM!

BORLO MOTIONS FOR GREBO AND ROGG TO FOLLOW, AND PURPOSELY LEADS THEM TOWARD A BUILDING —

BORLO, NOW CHIEF THRU THE DEATH OF TUOK, DARTS AWAY TO HEAD OFF OTHER DRAXIONS WHO ARE ABOUT TO ADVANCE ON THE MERCURIANS...

KEEP OUT OF THEIR SIGHT! IT IS SUICIDE TO APPROACH THEM! OUR ONLY HOPE OF SAVING THE WEALTH WE HAVE BEEN KEEPING ALL THESE CENTURIES IS TO ENLIST THE AID OF THE SPACEHAWK! HE IS OUR FRIEND, AND THE ONLY ONE, EXCEPT OUR ATTACKERS, WHO KNOWS ABOUT US!

LET US HURRY TO THE THOUGHT PROJECTOR, AND SEND OUT A MESSAGE!

BORLO SEATS HIMSELF IN THE PROJECTOR. HASTY ADJUSTMENTS ARE MADE. WITHIN A FEW MOMENTS HIS THOUGHT WAVES, AMPLIFIED MILLIONS OF TIMES, ARE BROADCAST EVEN BEYOND THE SOLAR SYSTEMS LIMITS...

MILLIONS OF MILES AWAY, NOT FAR FROM THE MARTIAN AREA, THE MYSTERIOUS SPACEHAWK'S SHIP DRIFTS SLOWLY ALONG.

THE SPACEHAWK, POWERFUL LONE WOLF CHAMPION OF LAW AND ORDER THRUOUT INTERPLANETARY SPACE, IS QUICK TO CATCH BORLO'S THOUGHT MESSAGE.....

HE RAPIDLY CHECKS CERTAIN INSTRUMENTS TO MAKE CERTAIN HE HAS A CLEAR PATH TO VENUS. THEN HE SETS OUT, SWIFTLY GAINING A SPEED WHICH ONLY HIS SHIP IS ABLE TO ATTAIN —

WITHIN A SHORT TIME THE SPACEHAWK SLOWS UP AND DIVES INTO THE CLOUD SHELL AROUND VENUS....

INSIDE GREBO'S SPACE SHIP, STILL WAITING ABOVE THE LAKE, THE SATURNIAN PILOTS FREEZE IN TERROR —

THE SPACEHAWK!

WE'VE NO TIME TO WARN GREBO AND ROGG! LET'S SAVE OUR OWN HIDES!

IN ANOTHER PART OF THE SHIP, THE REST OF THE CREW, MADE UP OF MEN FROM ALL NATIONS ON MERCURY, ARE SUDDENLY HURLED AGAINST THE WALL AS THE PILOTS THROW THE CRAFT INTO ACTION —

THE SPACEHAWK IGNORES THE FLEEING SHIP, AND PLUNGES HIS CRAFT INTO THE LAKE.

BUT GREBO'S PILOTS, FEARING THAT THEY WILL BE PURSUED, RECKLESSLY HEAD OFF INTO THE MOUNTAINS —

THEIR FRANTIC ATTEMPT TO CONCEAL THEMSELVES IN THE MOUNTAIN RAVINES ENDS ABRUPTLY AS THE SHIP SWERVES AGAINST A ROCKY SNAG —

UNAWARE OF WHAT HAS HAPPENED, GREBO AND ROGG COME UPON THE DRAXION CAPITOL. WATCHED BY SCORES OF HIDDEN DRAXIONS, THEY ENTER, UNMOLESTED, AND AFTER A THOROUGH SEARCH, FIND WHAT APPEARS TO BE THE DOOR TO A HUGE VAULT....

HELP ME BURN THIS LOCK, ROGG! IF THEY STILL HAVE THAT PLATINUM, I'LL WAGER IT'S BEHIND THIS DOOR!

THE PEACEFUL DRAXIONS, HAVING LITTLE KNOWLEDGE OF WEAPONS, ARE AMAZED AT THE POWER OF THE ELECTRON GUNS....

THEY'RE MELTING THE LOCK! LET US TRY TO STOP THEM BEFORE IT IS TOO LATE!

NO! REMEMBER THE ORDER BORLO GAVE US!

THAT DOES IT! NOW TO FIND OUT WHAT'S INSIDE! KEEP AN EYE OUT BEHIND YOU, ROGG! OUR FISH-EYED RELATIVES MIGHT DECIDE TO ATTACK US AGAIN!

BY THE LIGHT FROM THEIR GUNS, THE MERCURIANS PASS THRU A SHORT CORRIDOR, BREAK OPEN A SECOND DOOR, AND —

THE PLATINUM! MILLIONS OF DOLLARS IN SOLID PLATINUM!

WITH ALL THIS WEALTH, WE CAN PRACTICALLY BUY A PLANET OF OUR OWN, GREBO!

WE? WHY SHOULD I SHARE IT WITH YOU?

WHAT ARE YOU DRIVING AT? WE'RE PARTNERS IN THIS EXPEDITION, AND I INTEND TO—

GREBO SWINGS THE ELECTRON FLAME UPON THE OTHER'S FACE PLATE. AIR SPEWS FROM ROGG'S ARMOR, AND WATER RUSHES IN, INSTANTLY CRUSHING HIM.....

THE RUTHLESS MERCURIAN IS QUITE UNAWARE THAT A FIGURE STANDS IN THE DOORWAY.....

MURDERING YOUR FRIEND WAS STUPID, GREBO! IT WON'T HELP YOU TO GET MORE OF THIS PLATINUM — BECAUSE YOU WON'T GET **ANY**!

THE SPACEHAWK!

GET OUT! THERE ARE SOME DRAXIONS OUT THERE WHO ARE RATHER ANXIOUS TO MEET YOU—NOW THAT YOU DON'T HAVE A GUN IN YOUR HAND!

YOU — YOU'RE NOT REAL! HOW CAN YOU BREATHE? HOW CAN YOU STAND THE PRESSURE?

A CHARGE FROM THIS SHOCK PISTOL MIGHT CONVINCE YOU THAT I'M NO PHANTOM!

SHOCK PISTOL, EH? WHY — YOU CAN'T HURT ME WITH ONE OF THOSE THINGS! MY ARMOR IS TOO WELL INSULATED!

GREBO, I'LL GIVE YOU ABOUT TEN SECONDS TO GET OUT OF HERE!

YOU CAN'T BULLY ME! I'M GOING TO FIND OUT RIGHT NOW JUST WHO AND WHAT YOU ARE, AND WHAT MAKES YOU TICK!

THE MERCURIAN IS SURE THAT HE CAN, WITH THE ADVANTAGE OF HIS HEAVY ARMOR, SMASH THE SPACEHAWK TO A PULP. BUT TO HIS SURPRISE, HE SUDDENLY FINDS HIMSELF LOCKED IN AN IRON GRIP.....

CLUTCHING HIS ATTACKER, THE SPACEHAWK STRIDES OUT OF THE VAULT....

GREBO, YOU'RE GOING TO TAKE A LITTLE TRIP!

DON'T TURN ME OVER TO THE DRAXIONS! LET ME GO, AND I'LL NEVER COME BACK!

WITH ONE QUICK BLOW, THE SPACEHAWK JAMS GREBO'S GRAVITY CONTROL INTO THE EXTREME "UP" POSITION.

I'LL LET YOU GO — AND I'LL ALSO MAKE SURE YOU NEVER COME BACK!

GREBO IS SURPRISED TO FIND HIMSELF FREE, AND MOVING TOWARD THE SURFACE...

HIS ASCENSION BECOMES UNCOMFORTABLY SWIFT, AND HE TRIES TO TURN THE GRAVITY CONTROL BACK. A GREAT FEAR GRIPS HIM AS HE REALIZES IT HAS BEEN PURPOSELY JAMMED...

LIKE A BULLET FROM A GUN, HE SHOOTS UP FROM THE WATER. TO HIS DISMAY, HIS SHIP IS NOT IN SIGHT. THERE IS NO ONE TO STOP HIS SPEEDY FLIGHT INTO THE SKY....

AS HE REACHES THE VACUUM OF SPACE THE TERRIFIC PRESSURE WITHIN-

-HIS SUIT CAUSES IT TO BURST, SMASHING HIM TO ATOMS.

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BACK IN THE LAKE, THE THANKFUL DRAXIONS SWARM AROUND THE SPACEHAWK....

DON'T WORRY ANY MORE ABOUT MERCURIANS, BORLO! I'LL MAKE SURE THEY NEVER BOTHER YOU AGAIN!

AH! NOW IF ONLY WE COULD REALIZE OUR DREAM OF LEAVING THESE WATERS, SELLING OUR PLATINUM, AND BUILDING A GREAT LAND CITY! BUT IT WOULD TAKE MANY GENERATIONS TO AGAIN BECOME AIR BREATHERS!

GET YOUR PEOPLE TOGETHER! I WILL PERFORM THE CHANGE WITHIN A FEW HOURS!

WHAT! WHY – THAT'S INCREDIBLE!

EACH SUBJECT IS TREATED WITH A STRANGE ENERGY KNOWN ONLY TO THE SPACEHAWK—

AND EMERGES FROM THE OPERATION A NEW CREATURE THAT CAN BREATHE AIR!

LATER

WELL, BORLO, YOU LOOK SOMEWHAT DIFFERENT! AND YOU SHOULD— CONSIDERING THAT YOU HAVE JUST GONE THRU WHAT NATURE WOULD REQUIRE A LONG, LONG TIME TO DO!

IT'S ASTOUNDING! WE DON'T KNOW HOW TO THANK YOU!

THE DRAXIONS' FIRST JOB IN THEIR NEW ELEMENT IS TO PUT THEIR PLATINUM ABOARD THE SPACEHAWK'S SHIP....

THERE GOES THE TREASURE WE GUARDED SO LONG, BORLO! ARE YOU SURE WE AREN'T MAKING A MISTAKE TO TRUST IT TO THE SPACEHAWK?

IF WE NEVER SEE IT AGAIN, WE WILL STILL BE INDEBTED TO THE SPACEHAWK!

TWO DAYS LATER, A FLEET OF FREIGHT SHIPS ARRIVES FROM THE VENUSIAN CITIES ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE PLANET. THEY ARE LOADED WITH MATERIALS FOR BUILDING THE GREAT NEW CIVILIZATION OF THE DRAXIONS....

UNDER THE SPACEHAWK'S DIRECTION, THE CITY OF DRAXIA IS SOON A REALITY

MY WORK HERE IS DONE, BORLO. I MUST GO NOW.

YOU HAVE OUR ETERNAL GOOD WILL AND GRATITUDE FOR ALL THE MIRACLES YOU HAVE PERFORMED FOR US! TELL ME — WHAT IS THE SECRET OF YOUR AMAZING POWERS?

THAT IS SOMETHING I NEVER TELL TO ANY ONE!

AS THE SPACEHAWK WALKS AWAY, BORLO THINKS —

HIS HAND WAS HARD — LIKE STEEL! I WONDER IF HE IS — HUMAN —

AMID LOUD CHEERS, THE SPACEHAWK ROARS AWAY —

IT'S HIGH TIME FOR ME TO LEAVE! BORLO WAS BEGINNING TO GET THE IDEA I'M NOT QUITE HUMAN — AND THAT'S AN UNCOMFORTABLY CLOSE GUESS!

YOU WILL WANT TO EVENTUALLY DISCOVER THE MYSTERY OF THE SPACEHAWK? BE SURE TO SEE HIS NEXT STRANGE ADVENTURE!

THE SPACEHAWK

by BASIL WOLVERTON

IN THIS EPISODE THE MYSTERIOUS LONE WOLF OF THE VOID TANGLES WITH A TOUGH ENEMY— BUT IT TAKES A BEAUTIFUL GIRL TO FINALLY UNMASK HIM.

ON A TINY PLANET IN OUTER SPACE, TWO STRANGE BEINGS HAVE EVOLVED A DIABOLICAL MEANS OF OBTAINING THE RICH CARGOES OF SPACE CRAFT —

AT LAST OUR WORK IS DONE, JARK! EQUIPPED WITH ROCKET PROPELLERS, ARTIFICIAL GRAVITY AND AN AMPLIFIED ATMOSPHERE, THIS PLANETOID WILL MAKE AN IDEAL TRAP FOR SHIPS!

OUR SCHEME CANNOT FAIL, ZORG! LET US MOVE OUR PLANETOID INTO THE TRAFFIC LANES OF THE SOLAR SYSTEM, AND MAKE OUR FIRST CATCH!

IN THEIR CONTROL HOUSE, ZORG AND JARK LOOSE THE POWER TO SET THE PLANETOID IN MOTION....

MAMMOTH ROCKET BARRELS, BUILT DEEP WITHIN THE ROCK, BLAST FORTH PILLARS OF ROARING FLAME —

THUS PROPELLED, THE PLANETOID STREAKS WITHIN THE BOUNDS OF THE SOLAR SYSTEM....

APPLY THE REVERSE ROCKETS! WE WILL STOP HERE AND AWAIT OUR PREY!

SEVERAL THOUSAND MILES AWAY, A PASSENGER LINER SPEEDS OUT TOWARD THE PLANET PLUTO —

THE NEPTUNIAN PILOT IS PUZZLED BY WHAT HE SEES AHEAD....

THAT'S STRANGE! THERE SHOULDN'T BE ANY PLANETOID SO CLOSE TO THIS LANE!

IT'S MOVING INTO OUR PATH — AND WE'RE GOING TOO FAST TO TURN OUT FOR IT!

IN THE CONTROL ROOM ON THE PLANETOID, ZORG BELLOWS ORDERS..

QUICK! THROW OUT THE BUMPER BEAM — JUST ENOUGH TO KEEP THAT SHIP FROM HITTING TOO HARD!

THE POWERFUL REPELLENT FORCE GRIPS THE CRAFT, AND ONLY ITS FORE PART IS SHATTERED AS IT RUNS SQUARELY AGAINST THE PLANETOID...

THE SURVIVING PASSENGERS,—MOSTLY SATURNIANS AND NEPTUNIANS, EXCITEDLY RUSH FROM THE SHIP —

AH! NOW WE SHALL WITNESS A **VERY** THRILLING SIGHT! I SHALL LOOSE THE IMPRISONED **SNURLS** UPON OUR VISITORS!

ZORG YANKS A LEVER. HOLES APPEAR IN THE GROUND, AND BLOODTHIRSTY SNURLS, IMPORTED FROM A PLANET IN OUTER SPACE, LEAP UPON THE SCREAMING PASSENGERS.

THAT TAKES CARE OF ANY RESISTANCE WE MIGHT ENCOUNTER WHILE WE LOOT THE SHIP! NOW TO GET THOSE SNURLS BACK INTO THEIR DENS!

JARK STAYS IN THE CONTROL HOUSE AND OPERATES THE DEN-CLOSING MECHANISM, WHILE ZORG, WITH A SHOCK WHIP, GOES OUT AND FORCES THE CREATURES BACK INTO THEIR UNDERGROUND QUARTERS.....

AS ZORG IS ABOUT TO ENTER THE WRECKED SHIP, A GIRL STAGGERS OUT OF IT.

UPON SEEING ZORG, SHE ATTEMPTS TO FLEE, BUT A POWERFUL TENTACLE WHIPS OUT AND SEIZES HER...

AHA! AN EARTH GIRL — AND QUITE COMELY, TOO! JUST THE PERSON TO KEEP ME FROM BECOMING TOO LONELY ON THIS BARREN LITTLE PLANET!

AN EARTH GIRL, EH? JUST LEAVE HER TO ME, ZORG! YOU CAN HAVE WHAT EVER ELSE YOU FIND IN THE SHIP!

GET THIS THRU YOUR THICK SKULL RIGHT NOW, JARK! I'M THE HEAD OF THIS PLANETOID, AND I'LL DECIDE WHAT YOU CAN HAVE! I'LL TAKE CARE OF THIS GIRL AND I DON'T NEED ANY HELP!

COME NOW! I SHALL PUT YOU UNDER THE SURGICAL RAY! IT WILL ALTER YOUR APPEARANCE COMPLETELY, AND YOU WILL BE TRULY BEAUTIFUL ACCORDING TO **MY** STANDARDS!

YOU'LL REGRET WHAT YOU'VE DONE, YOU BEAST! IF THE INTERPLANETARY POLICE DON'T GET YOU, THE SPACEHAWK WILL!

EARTH WOMAN, THE INTELLIGENCE AND POWER OF THE SPACEHAWK ARE **NOTHING** COMPARED TO **MY** ABILITIES! THE SPACEHAWK WILL NEVER SHOW HIS FACE ON THIS PLANETOID, UNLESS I DECIDE TO LURE HIM TO HIS DOOM!

BUT AT THAT VERY MOMENT THE SPACEHAWK, HAVING SPOTTED THE STRANGE PLANETOID, SPEEDS FORTH TO INVESTIGATE —

JARK, IN THE CONTROL HOUSE, IS WARNED BY THE AUTOMATIC SHIP DETECTOR'S SIGNAL....

LOOKS LIKE A PRIVATE SHIP! WHOEVER IT IS, I'LL SHOW THEM WHAT IT MEANS TO COME SNOOPING AROUND **HERE**!

THE SPACEHAWK PROMPTLY LANDS. AS HE STEPS FROM HIS SHIP, TWO HERCULEAN SNURLS CHARGE HIM.

HE CALMLY SEIZES BOTH OF THEM, AND HURLS THEM TO THEIR DEATH.....

LOOKING OUT UPON THE SCENE, JARK IS AMAZED AT THE DISPLAY OF STRENGTH. THEN HE RECOGNIZES THE MASKED FIGURE.....

IT'S THE SPACEHAWK!

HERE'S WHERE THAT MEDDLER MEETS HIS WATERLOO! HE CAN'T ESCAPE THIS ATOM RIFLE!

LIFTED BY THE CONTROLLABLE ANTI-GRAVITY ELEMENTS IN HIS APPAREL, THE SPACEHAWK APPROACHES IN LONG LEAPS....

SUDDENLY HE IS STRUCK FULL IN THE CHEST BY A LETHAL BOLT FROM JARK'S RIFLE—

—AND FALLS IN A HEAP UPON THE ROCKY SOIL...

AH! I HAVE DONE WHAT HUNDREDS OF MEN HAVE TRIED TO DO AND FAILED — **PUT AN END TO THE FAMOUS SPACEHAWK!**

THE VALOROUS HERO OF THE SKIES IS DEADER THAN A MOON CRATER! I'LL GIVE HIM A FITTING FUNERAL BY LETTING OUT TWO MORE SNURLS TO PICK HIS BONES!

JARK SHRIEKS IN ALARM AS HE IS GRIPPED TIGHTLY BY THE LEG —

SPEAKING OF BONE-PICKING, **I** HAVE ONE I'M GOING TO PICK WITH **YOU**, MY FRIEND!

YOU GIVE A MIGHTY ROUSING WELCOME TO VISITORS! NOW I'LL RETURN THE HOSPITALITY!

DON'T! DON'T!! I THOUGHT YOU WERE DEAD!

THE SPACEHAWK WHIRLS JARK AROUND HIS HEAD AND FLINGS HIM AWAY WITH SUCH FORCE THAT HE IS CRUSHED TO A PULP AGAINST THE STEEL WALL OF AN OXYGENERATOR....

WITHIN HIS LABORATORY, WHERE HE IS ABOUT TO CHANGE THE EARTH GIRL INTO AN UGLY CREATURE MORE TO HIS LIKING, ZORG HEARS JARK'S LAST BLOOD-CURDLING SCREAMS.....

HE RUSHES TO A WINDOW AND STIFFENS WITH SURPRISE AT SIGHT OF THE SPACEHAWK —

THAT FOOL JARK! IF HE'D TURNED ON THE BUMPER BEAM, THE SPACEHAWK COULDN'T HAVE LANDED! **I'LL SOON SETTLE WITH BOTH OF THEM!**

SENSING ZORG'S WHEREABOUTS, THE SPACEHAWK LEAPS DIRECTLY THRU THE WINDOW AND INTO THE LABORATORY....

LOOKING FOR TROUBLE, EH? **HERE'S WHERE YOU CAN FIND IT!**

ZORG'S ATOM PISTOL SPITS STRAIGHT INTO THE SEARED SPOT ON THE SPACEHAWK'S CHEST....

AS THOUGH SUDDENLY FROZEN STIFF, THE SPACEHAWK HALTS— THEN CRASHES TO THE FLOOR...

THAT'S THAT! NOW TO DISCOVER WHAT'S BEHIND THAT MASK!

WHY — IT'S A MECHANICAL MAN! A ROBOT!

RECOVERING FROM HIS AMAZEMENT, ZORG HURRIES BACK TO HIS TERRESTRIAL VICTIM —

I HAVE NEWS FOR YOU, MY DEAR! I HAVE JUST CONQUERED YOUR MYSTERIOUS HERO — THE SPACEHAWK! HE IS NOTHING MORE THAN A **ROBOT** — AN INTRICATE MECHANICAL MACHINE!

THEN YOU DID **NOT** MEET THE SPACEHAWK! I HAVE SEEN HIM AND I'M SURE HE IS HUMAN!

AT A SOUND BEHIND HIM, ZORG WHIRLS AND FINDS HIMSELF CONFRONTED BY ANOTHER MASKED FIGURE —

THE EARTH GIRL IS RIGHT! YOU MERELY SHOT AT ONE OF MY ROBOTS! NOW YOU HAVE **ME** TO CONTEND WITH!

ROBOT OR FLESH AND BLOOD, I'LL TEAR YOU TO PIECES!

PUTTING ALL HIS GREAT STRENGTH INTO HIS STEELY TENTACLES, ZORK STRUGGLES FURIOUSLY —

HE IS SURE HE IS ABOUT TO OVERCOME HIS OPPONENT. THEN SUDDENLY THE SPACEHAWK SEIZES HIM BY HIS NECK, AND WITH ONE SWIFT, POWERFUL MOTION, BREAKS ZORG'S SPINAL COLUMN.....

ZORG SHIVERS CONVULSIVELY, AND SLUMPS TO THE FLOOR — DEAD....

I'LL HAVE YOU OUT OF HERE IN A MOMENT, MISS! FOR ONE WHO HAS HAD SUCH A NARROW ESCAPE, YOU'RE SURPRISINGLY CALM!

WHY SHOULD I BE EXCITED? I WAS SURE YOU WOULD COME!

DON'T YOU REMEMBER ME? ONLY A FEW WEEKS AGO YOU RESCUED ME FROM GORVAK THE MARTIAN!

I NEVER FORGET A FACE!

WHY NOT TAKE OFF THAT MASK AND GIVE ME A CHANCE TO REMEMBER YOURS?

SINCE I ARRIVED IN THIS SOLAR SYSTEM I HAVE ALLOWED NO ONE TO UNMASK ME OR ANY OF MY ROBOTS, — UNTIL TODAY!

BUT NOW I AM GOING TO CLAIM THAT KISS I DIDN'T TAKE WHEN I SAVED YOU FROM THE MARTIAN PIRATES!

WHY IS IT YOU DIDN'T DO THAT WHEN YOU RESCUED ME BEFORE?

HOW DO YOU KNOW BUT WHAT YOU WERE RESCUED BY ONE OF MY **ROBOTS?**

THERE IS THE ROBOT THRU WHICH I ATTACKED YOUR CAPTORS! IT FUNCTIONS BY MY TELEPATHIC COMMANDS — ALMOST AS MY OWN LIMBS DO! IN FACT, IT **IS** ACTUALLY **I** IN A MECHANICAL FORM!

IT — IT'S GETTING UP! **IT'S FOLLOWING US!**

IT'S NOT DAMAGED TOO MUCH TO OBEY SIMPLE COMMANDS! COME! I MUST GET THIS PLANETOID OUT OF THE TRAFFIC LANES!

BY MEANS OF AMPLIFIED GRAVITATION WITHIN HIS SHIP, THE SPACEHAWK QUICKLY TOWS THE PLANETOID BACK INTO OUTER SPACE. THEN HE SPEEDS TO THE EARTH GIRL'S INTENDED DESTINATION — THE PLANET PLUTO....

WILL I MEET YOU AGAIN— SOON?

IT'S LIKELY TO BE A LONG TIME. I'VE MUCH WORK TO DO! PLEASE DON'T GET INTO ANY MORE TROUBLE! IF YOU DO, AND I HAPPEN TO BE TOO FAR AWAY, YOU MAY NOT BE SO FORTUNATE! GOOD-BYE!

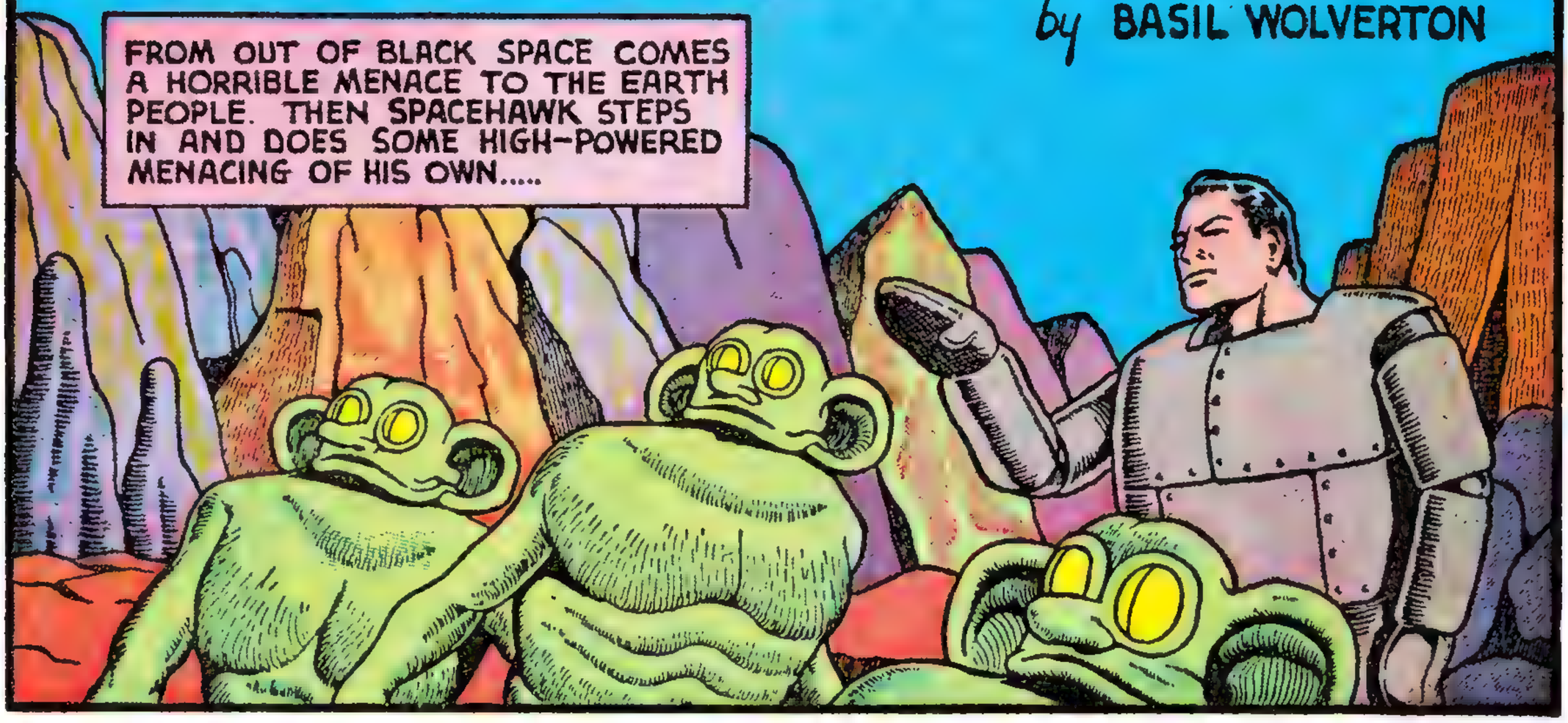
HMM! I GUESS IT'S UP TO ME TO SEE THAT IT ISN'T **TOO** LONG UNTIL WE MEET AGAIN!

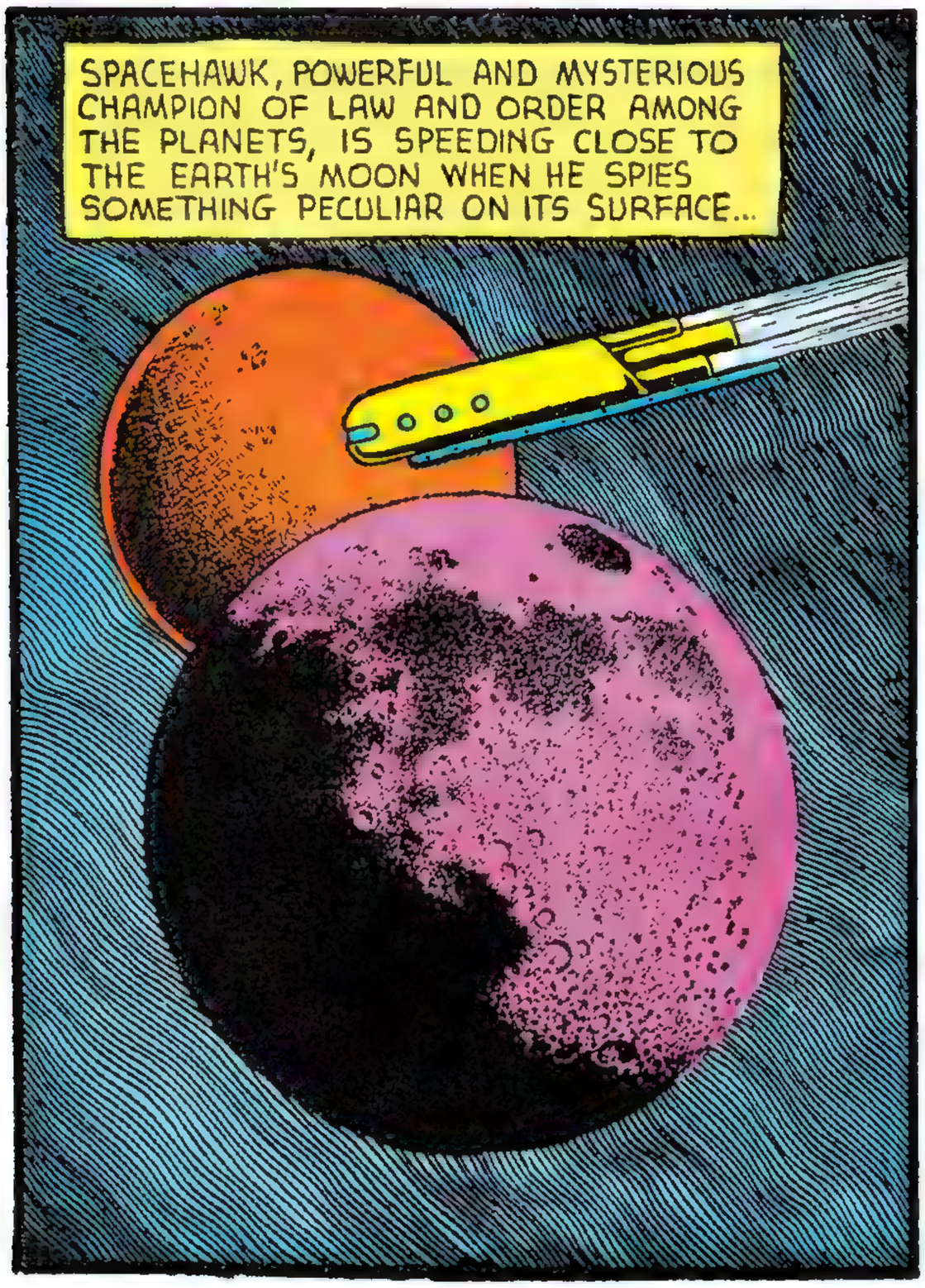
WE'VE SEEN THE SPACEHAWK, BUT JUST WHO IS HE? BE SURE TO MEET HIM AGAIN NEXT MONTH IN **TARGET COMICS**

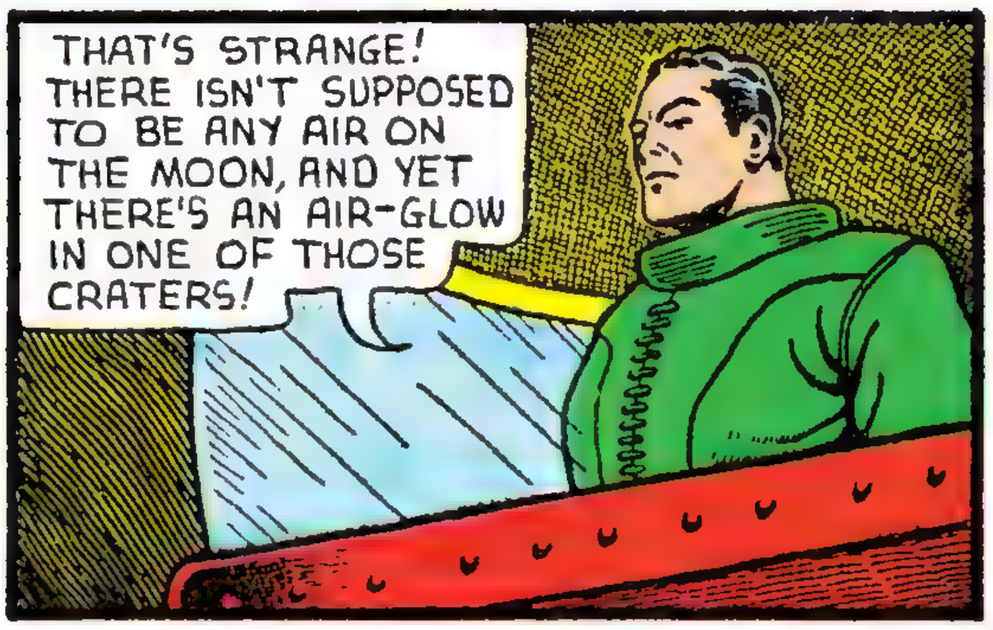
SPACEHAWK

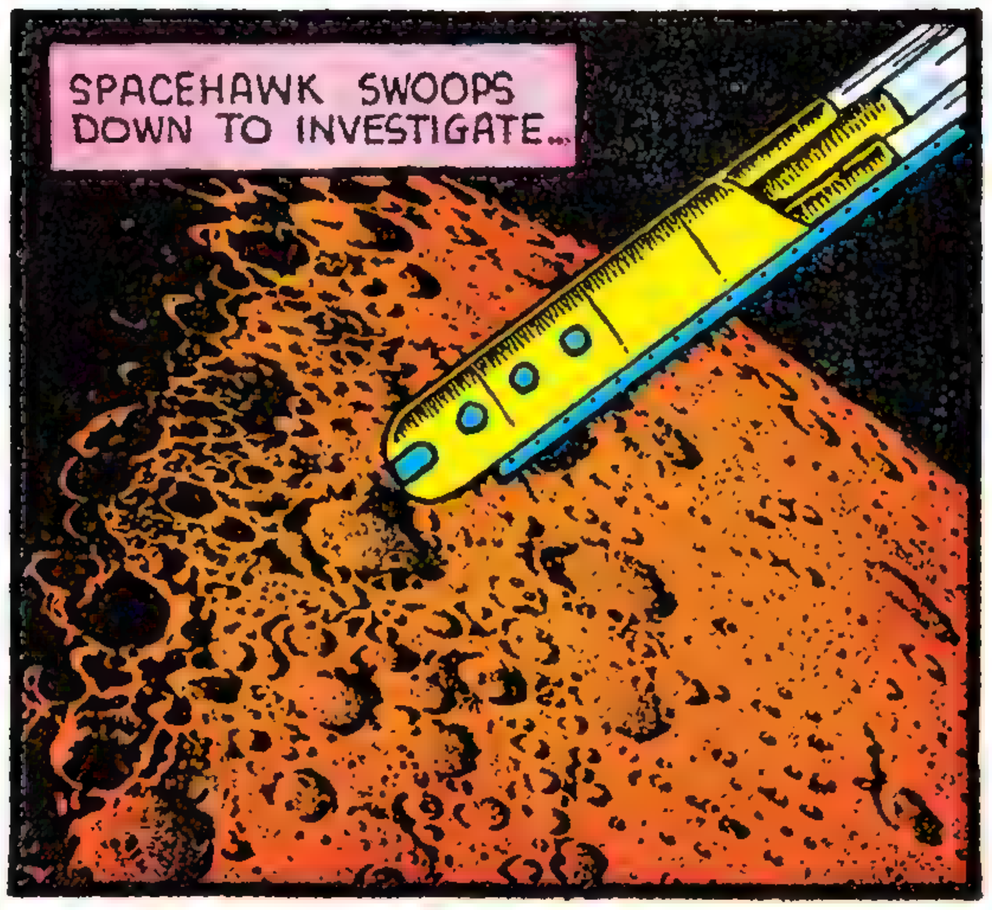
AND THE VULTURE MEN FROM THE VOID

by BASIL WOLVERTON


FROM OUT OF BLACK SPACE COMES A HORRIBLE MENACE TO THE EARTH PEOPLE. THEN SPACEHAWK STEPS IN AND DOES SOME HIGH-POWERED MENACING OF HIS OWN.....


SPACEHAWK, POWERFUL AND MYSTERIOUS CHAMPION OF LAW AND ORDER AMONG THE PLANETS, IS SPEEDING CLOSE TO THE EARTH'S MOON WHEN HE SPIES SOMETHING PECULIAR ON ITS SURFACE...





HE DROPS STRAIGHT TOWARD ONE OF THE YAWNING CRATERS...

—AND LANDS ON ITS VAST AND RUGGED BED.

THE GAUGES INDICATE ENOUGH AIR HERE TO MAKE THIS CRATER HABITABLE! NOW TO FIND OUT HOW THAT AIR GOT HERE, AND WHY!

VERY FAINTLY, AT FIRST, A FLOW OF EVIL THOUGHT WAVES DRIFTS INTO CONTACT WITH SPACEHAWK'S POWERFUL, PENETRATING MIND.

THEY ARE CAUSED BY CREATURES ONLY A SHORT DISTANCE FROM SPACEHAWK'S SHIP....

A SHIP HAS LANDED IN THE CRATER, GLAK!

DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT! EVEN IF ITS OCCUPANTS ARE INTERPLANETARY POLICE, AND CLEVER ENOUGH TO FIND OUR HIDDEN ABODE, THEY'LL NEVER RETURN TO THEIR SHIP!

WELL! WELL! I NEVER WOULD HAVE GUESSED I WOULD FIND MY ANCIENT ENEMIES — THE VULTURE MEN — IN **THIS** SOLAR SYSTEM!

SPACEHAWK!

AH, YES! IT **IS** THE SPACEHAWK! THE KEEN DISLIKE IS MUTUAL, I'M SURE!

I WARN YOU, GLAK, AND YOU, ORAD! IF YOU'RE HERE FOR NO GOOD, YOU'LL COME TO A QUICK END!

STILL THE BRAVE DEFENDER OF THE PEACE, EH, SPACEHAWK? I'M WARNING **YOU**! DON'T INTFRFERE WITH OUR PLAN TO TAKE OVER THE EARTH! WHEN THAT IS ACCOMPLISHED, OUR PEOPLE WILL MIGRATE HERE FROM OUR SOLAR SYSTEM! NOW, IF YOU DON'T MIND — WE'RE EXTREMELY BUSY!

YOU'LL BE MUCH BUSIER TRYING TO SAVE YOUR HIDES IF YOU DON'T LEAVE THIS SOLAR SYSTEM! I'LL GIVE YOU JUST 48 HOURS TO GET OUT—OR ELSE!

SPACEHAWK LEAPS BACKWARD THRU THE DOOR AND DISAPPEARS. THEN—

THE CONCEITED FOOL! I'LL BLAST HIM TO RIBBONS BEFORE HE GETS HALF WAY TO HIS SHIP!

BUT SPACEHAWK IS WHISKED STRAIGHT INTO THE SKY BY HIS ANTI-GRAVITY BELT, AND FROM THERE, BY MENTAL TELEPATHY, HE SIGNALS ONE OF HIS ROBOT MEN TO BRING THE SHIP TO HIM.....

LOOK! THE SHIP IS HEADING INTO THE SKY — BUT WHERE IS SPACEHAWK?

HE'S SLIPPED THRU OUR FINGERS! THAT MEANS WE'LL HAVE TO WORK FAST!

PREPARE A PROJECTILE, AND BE READY TO FIRE IT RIGHT AFTER I SEND MY MESSAGE TO THE EARTHLINGS!

A FEW MINUTES LATER, MILLIONS OF EARTH'S TELSOR SCREENS ARE MYSTERIOUSLY COVERED WITH GLAK'S EVIL VISAGE—

I AM GLAK, ONE OF A SUPER RACE DWELLING IN A FAR DISTANT SOLAR SYSTEM! MY PEOPLE DESIRE TO INHABIT YOUR EARTH! LEAVE AT ONCE, OR A HORRIBLE PLAGUE WILL DESTROY YOU— A PLAGUE A MILLION TIMES AS GREAT AS THE MERE SAMPLE I AM ABOUT TO SEND!

SPACEHAWK, NOW SAFE IN HIS SHIP OUTSIDE THE CRATER, RECEIVES GLAK'S MESSAGE. THEN HE SEES A HUGE SORT OF CANNON JUT UP FROM THE CRATER BED, AND BELCH FORTH A GIANT PROJECTILE.....

BY MEANS OF HIS LONG-DISTANCE TELECTROSCOPE, SPACEHAWK FOLLOWS THE FLIGHT OF THE MISSILE....

FOR HOURS IT STREAKS TOWARD THE EARTH'S ORBIT. UPON REACHING THE FRINGE OF THAT PLANET'S ATMOSPHERE, IT SLOWS DOWN....

—AND DRIFTS DOWN OVER A BUSY STREET IN NEW YORK. THERE IT EXPLODES, THROWING STREAMERS OF A STRANGE, GREEN GAS IN ALL DIRECTIONS....

PEOPLE SCREAM IN AGONY AS THE LETHAL FUMES TOUCH THEIR SKINS. PANIC ENSUES, AND ALL IS CONFUSION..

WITHIN A VERY FEW MINUTES THE STREET IS LITTERED WITH SKELETONS, FOR THE FIERY GAS SENT BY THE VULTURE MEN HAS CONSUMED ALL FLESH WITHIN ITS RANGE!

PANDEMONIUM REIGNS THRUOUT THE EARTH AS NEWS OF THE CATASTROPHE IS FLASHED ABROAD. TELECTROSCOPES SCAN THE SKIES FOR SIGNS OF INVADERS, AND THOUSANDS OF ARMED SHIPS PLUNGE INTO SPACE TO INTERCEPT ANY POSSIBLE ENEMY....

I MIGHT HAVE PREVENTED THIS — BUT I HAD NO DEFINITE REASON TO DELIBERATELY MURDER THOSE VULTURE MEN ON SIGHT! **NOW** IT'S UP TO ME TO WIPE THEM OUT!

BRAVING THE ANTI-SPACE-CRAFT ATOM CANNONS HE REALIZES THE VULTURE MEN MUST HAVE, SPACEHAWK ROARS HIGH OVER THE CRATER AND POURS DOWN A FIERY BLAST FROM HIS ELECTRON GUN. TO HIS SURPRISE THE CHARGE IS DEFLECTED IN MID AIR!

I EXPECTED HIM TO ATTACK US, ONCE HE COULD SEE WE MEAN BUSINESS! BUT THAT INVISIBLE BUMPER BEAM I JUST SPREAD ACROSS THE CRATER WILL KEEP US SAFE! NEXT TIME HE FLIES OVER, TEMPORARILY SHUT OFF THE BEAM, AND LET HIM HAVE A CHARGE FROM ONE OF THE ATOM CANNONS!

SPACEHAWK SPRINGS **HIS** SURPRISE BY CLIMBING HIGH — THEN SWIFTLY DROPPING STRAIGHT DOWN AND PARKING HIS SHIP ON THE SOLID BUMPER BEAM AT A POSITION EXACTLY ABOVE THE VULTURE MEN'S QUARTERS....

IF YOU SEND ANY MORE PROJECTILES TO EARTH, GLAK, YOU'LL HAVE TO SHUT OFF YOUR BUMPER BEAM FOR THE MOMENT! AND IF YOU DO THAT, MY SHIP WILL CRASH DOWN AND DESTROY YOU AND YOUR EQUIPMENT!

YOUR BUMPER BEAM IDEA HAS US IN A FINE PREDICAMENT, GLAK! NOW WE CAN'T FIRE AT HIM WITHOUT HIS FALLING ON US!

SHUT UP! THERE MUST BE A WAY OUT OF THIS!

PROBABLY HE'S BLUFFING! SURELY HE WOULDN'T DESTROY HIMSELF TO DESTROY US!

HE'S **NOT** BLUFFING! **LOOK!** HE'S LEAVING HIS SHIP, JUST IN CASE IT **DOES** FALL!

BUT IT IS NOT TO SAVE HIMSELF THAT SPACEHAWK, ATTIRED IN SPACE ARMOR, RACES ACROSS THE BUMPER BEAM TOWARD THE EDGE OF THE CRATER...

WITH ONE TREMENDOUS LEAP HE CLEARS THE TOWERING RIM, AND DISAPPEARS IN THE DISTANCE.

A FEW MINUTES LATER, SPACEHAWK IS IN THE UNDERGROUND ABODE OF A TRIBE OF MOON PEOPLE....

SPACEHAWK, MY FRIEND! IT IS GOOD TO SEE YOU AGAIN! WHAT BRINGS YOU HERE?

I'VE A FAVOR TO ASK, CHIEF LOODUB! MEN FROM OUTER SPACE ARE USING AN AIR-FILLED CRATER ABOVE US AS A BASE FROM WHICH TO ATTACK THE EARTH! IF YOU WILL GIVE ME A FEW MEN; I MAY BE ABLE TO PREVENT THIS ATTACK!

ANYTHING YOU WISH IS YOURS! TAKE YOUR PICK FROM MY GUARDS!

WITH A SMALL GROUP OF MOON MEN, SPACEHAWK FOLLOWS AN ANCIENT LAVA ARTERY LEADING UPWARD CLOSE TO THE BED OF THE CRATER IN WHICH THE VULTURE MEN ARE SITUATED....

USING THEIR SILENT ROCK-CUTTING WEAPONS, THE MEN QUICKLY BORE UP INTO THE CRATER...

THE VULTURE MEN ARE CONCEALED UNDER THAT MOUND OF LAVA! TRY TO ENGAGE THEIR ATTENTION WITHOUT ENDANGERING YOURSELVES! I HAVE OTHER WORK TO DO!

LOOK, GLAK! MEN ARE COMING THIS WAY! HOW'D THEY GET INTO THIS CRATER?

THEY'LL BE SORRY THEY CAME! HAND ME AN ATOM RIFLE!

CRACKLING CHARGES SPIT FROM GLAK'S RIFLE AND SCREAM TOWARD THE DISTANT FIGURES.

THE MOON MEN, ON THE ALERT FOR ANY THING TO HAPPEN, DROP SAFELY INTO A RAVINE.....

WHOEVER THEY ARE, THAT MADE THEM CRAWL INTO THEIR SHELLS! THEY WON'T DARE COME NEARER!

SPACEHAWK'S SHIP IS GONE!

GONE? THAT PROVES HE WAS BLUFFING! BUT WHERE'D IT GO? WHY DIDN'T YOU KEEP AN EYE ON IT?

NOW WE CAN SHUT OFF THE BEAM AND SEND ANOTHER PROJECTILE! THE EARTHLINGS ARE FOOLISHLY PREPARING TO RESIST! WE'LL PROVE HOW FUTILE THAT IS BY SENDING ENOUGH GAS TO DESTROY **ALL** THE PEOPLE IN THAT METROPOLIS THEY CALL NEW YORK!

MEANWHILE, SPACEHAWK HAS SENT OUT THOUGHT COMMANDS TO HIS ROBOTS ABOARD HIS SHIP, AND THEY HAVE WHISKED THE CRAFT AWAY TO A POSITION JUST OUT OF SIGHT ON THE CRATER'S RIM....

UNDER CONSTANT TELEPATHIC COMMANDS, THE ROBOTS CONNECT TWO ELECTRICITY BEAM PROJECTORS TO THE SHIP'S MIGHTY ELECTRONIC GENERATORS. WITH THE GENERATORS RUNNING FULL BLAST, THE POSITIVE AND NEGATIVE BEAMS ARE TRAINED ON A SECTION OF METALLIC DEPOSIT NEAR THE CRATER'S RIM. GRADUALLY, UNDER THE FUSING ACTION OF THE BEAMS, ROCK AND METAL TURN TO A FIERY, LIQUID MASS.....

THE MOLTEN MATTER INCREASES AND FLOWS TOWARD THE CRATER'S RIM. WITH A ROAR THAT ROCKS THE MOON, IT PLUNGES THOUSANDS OF FEET TO THE CRATER'S BED....

AT THAT MOMENT THE VULTURE MEN FIRE THE SECOND DEADLY MISSILE TOWARD EARTH.....

THERE MUST BE A LIVE VOLCANO IN THE CRATER'S WALL! LAVA IS POURING TOWARD US! WE'LL BE LOST!

QUICK! GET THE SPACE SUITS! WE'VE NO TIME TO GET THE SHIP OUT!

DON'T BE ALARMED, MEN! MY HELPERS UP ON THE RIM ARE CAUSING ALL THIS! YOU'LL BE SAFE IF YOU RETURN TO YOUR UNDERGROUND DOMAIN, AND SEAL THE TUNNEL BEHIND YOU! THANKS FOR THE HELP!

AS THE MOON MEN DISAPPEAR INTO THE GROUND, SPACEHAWK SEES THE VULTURE MEN, LIFTED BY ANTI-GRAVITY ELEMENTS, SHOOT INTO THE SKY...

THE NEXT MOMENT THE FIERY FLOOD SWEEPS OVER THEIR QUARTERS, DESTROYING EVERY THING.....

SPACEHAWK LEAPS UP TO THE CRATERS RIM, AND RACES TO HIS SHIP.

GLAK AND ORAD ARE HORRIFIED TO SEE THE SHIP ROARING TOWARD THEM.....

IT'S SPACEHAWK! HE'S GOING TO RUN US DOWN!

BUT SPACEHAWK HAS OTHER PLANS. HE SENDS OUT ONE OF THE ROBOTS TO SEIZE THE VULTURE MEN AND BRING THEM INTO THE SHIP.....

I OUGHT TO BREAK YOUR NECKS RIGHT NOW, BUT I HAVE A BETTER WAY FOR YOU TO DIE!

BUT WE HAVE DONE NOTHING! WE HAD DECIDED TO GIVE UP OUR PLAN AND LEAVE THE MOON! YOU HAVE NO REASON TO HOLD US!

WHY LIE TO ME? RIGHT NOW YOU'RE GLOATING OVER THE FACT THAT YOU AT LEAST MANAGED TO SEND THAT SECOND PROJECTILE TO EARTH! NO DOUBT YOU'LL BE DISAPPOINTED TO LEARN THAT THIS SHIP IS CAPABLE OF A MUCH GREATER SPEED THAN THAT OF YOUR PROJECTILE! WITHIN AN HOUR I SHALL OVERTAKE IT AND BRING IT BACK TO THE MOON!

UPON OVERTAKING THE MISSILE, SPACEHAWK MOVES CAREFULLY UP TO IT, AND CLAMPS IT TO THE SHIP BY MEANS OF A MAGNETIC GRABBER.....

HE RETURNS TO THE MOON, AND DROPS THE PROJECTILE IN A PART OF THE AIR-FILLED CRATER NOT COVERED BY THE MOLTEN METAL. THERE IT EXPLODES, SPEWING ITS HORRIBLE GAS FOR MILES IN ALL DIRECTIONS....

NOW I'M GOING TO RIG YOU TWO UP WITH JUST ENOUGH ANTI-GRAVITY POWER TO GENTLY DROP YOU INTO THE CRATER! IF YOUR SKINS ARE AS TOUGH AS YOUR HEARTS, THE GAS WON'T BURN YOU!

YOU'LL PAY FOR THIS! OUR PEOPLE WILL GLADLY CROSS THE UNIVERSE TO AVENGE US!

YOU WOULDN'T DARE! WE ARE VULTURE MEN — THE HIGHEST TYPE OF CIVILIZATION!

BEFORE GLAK AND ORAD REACH THE GROUND, THEY ARE SHRIEKING AND WRITHING IN THE TORMENTS OF THEIR OWN CREATION.....

SPACEHAWK SWOOPS DOWN FOR A LAST LOOK, AND SEES ALL THAT IS LEFT OF THE MURDEROUS BEINGS FROM OUTER SPACE.

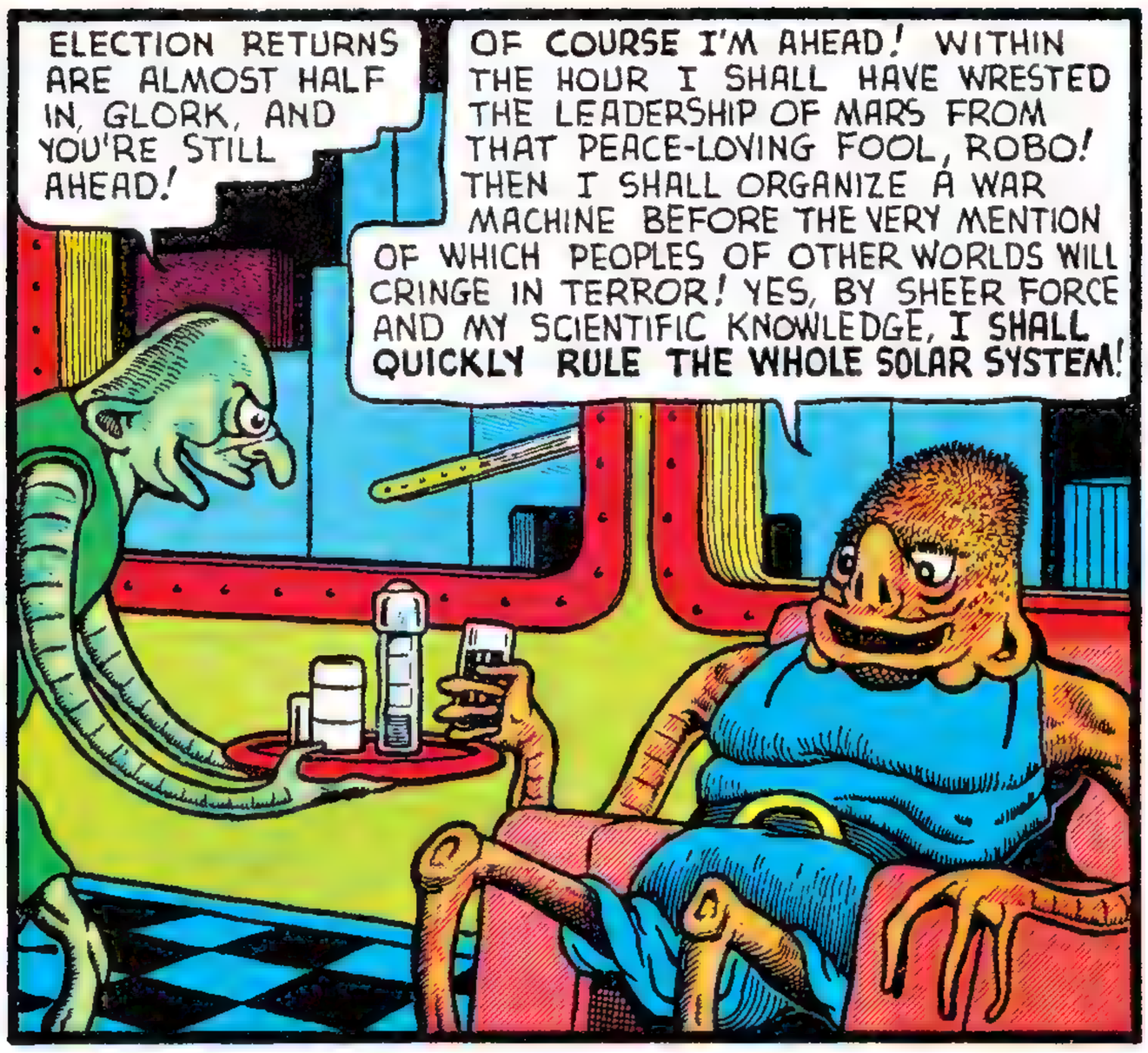
THAT WAS AN UNPLEASANT JOB, BUT THAT'S WHAT I'M HERE FOR! NOW THAT IT'S OVER, I'D BETTER LET THE EARTH PEOPLE IN ON WHAT IT'S ALL ABOUT!

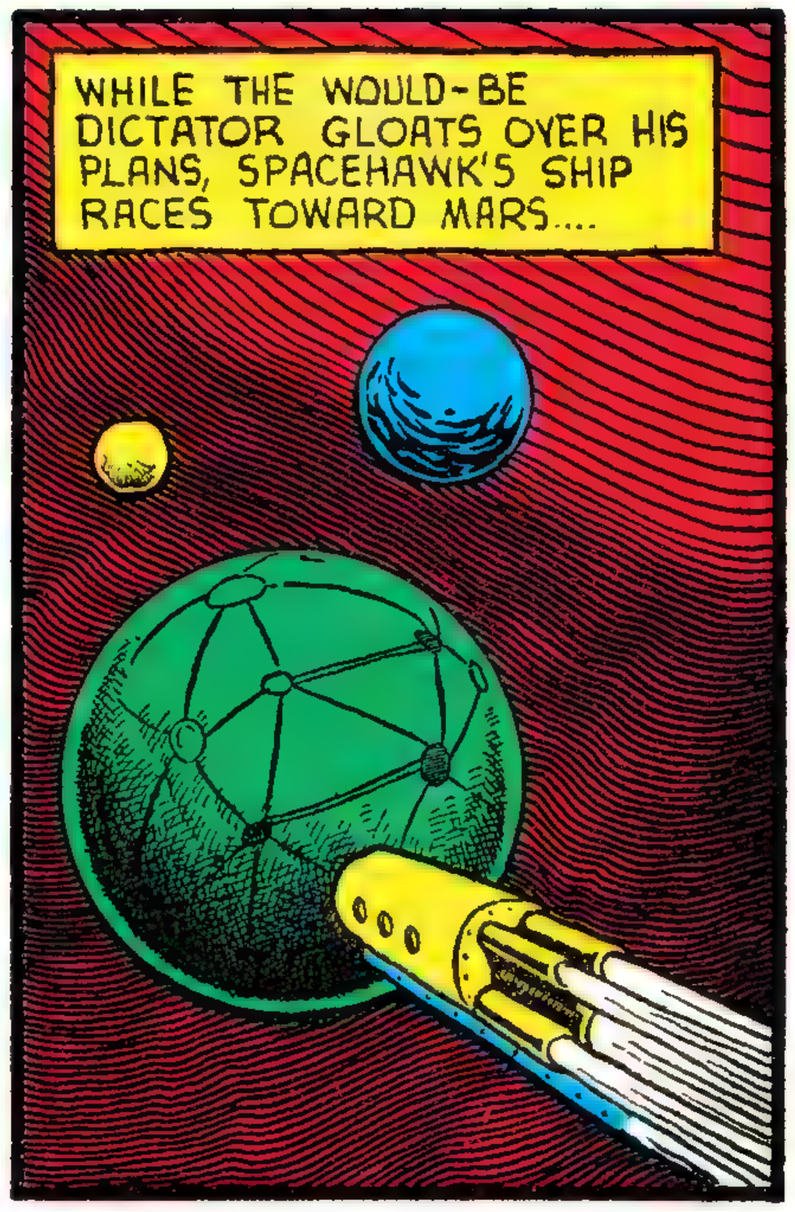
ANOTHER WEIRD SPACEHAWK ADVENTURE IN NEXT MONTH'S TARGET COMICS.

SPACEHAWK

THE SUPERHUMAN ENEMY OF CRIME

by BASIL WOLVERTON


ELECTION RETURNS ARE ALMOST HALF IN, GLORK, AND YOU'RE STILL AHEAD!
OF COURSE I'M AHEAD! WITHIN THE HOUR I SHALL HAVE WRESTED THE LEADERSHIP OF MARS FROM THAT PEACE-LOVING FOOL, ROBO! THEN I SHALL ORGANIZE A WAR MACHINE BEFORE THE VERY MENTION OF WHICH PEOPLES OF OTHER WORLDS WILL CRINGE IN TERROR! YES, BY SHEER FORCE AND MY SCIENTIFIC KNOWLEDGE, I SHALL QUICKLY RULE THE WHOLE SOLAR SYSTEM!



I MUST BE ON HAND WHEN THE MARTIAN ELECTION IS OVER! IF THE PEOPLE LET GLORK BULLY THEM INTO CHOOSING HIM FOR THEIR RULER, THEY'LL SOON FIND THEMSELVES IN PLENTY OF TROUBLE!
SPACEHAWK QUICKLY THINKS OF A NOVEL PLAN—A DISGUISE.

SPACEHAWK DIVES TOWARD THE GREAT DESERT OF MARS—

—AND LEAPS FROM HIS SHIP...

BY POTENT THOUGHT IMPULSES, HE COMMANDS HIS ROBOT PILOT TO TAKE THE CRAFT BACK UP INTO THE DARK STRATOSPHERE. THEN HE BOUNDS SWIFTLY TOWARD HULGO, THE MARTIAN CAPITAL.....

MEANWHILE—GLORK HEARS MORE ELECTION RESULTS.

—ROBO IS NOW LEADING BY MORE THAN 47 MILLION!

THAT'S UNBELIEVABLE! MY MEN HAVE THREATENED THE PEOPLE OF EVERY COMMUNITY! **HOW DARE THEY VOTE FOR ROBO!**

AND LATER—

IT IS OUR PLEASURE TO ANNOUNCE THAT ROBO WILL BE OUR RULER FOR ANOTHER FIVE YEARS!

SO! THIS IS THE CO-OPERATION I GET IN TRYING TO MAKE THE MARTIANS MASTERS OF THE PLANETS! **THE THANKLESS SWINE!** I'LL MAKE THEM REGRET THIS! IF I CAN'T RULE THIS PLANET, I'LL SEE TO IT THAT **NO** ONE DOES!

JUST AS I THOUGHT, GLORK! YOU CAN'T TAKE A BEATING WITHOUT GETTING SORE!

WHAT! WHY YOU INSOLENT DOG! HOW'D YOU GET IN HERE? **I'LL MURDER YOU**, YOU— **SAY-WHO ARE YOU?**

WITH ONE LIGHTNING MOVEMENT, SPACEHAWK FLICKS THE WEAPON ASIDE, AND SEIZES GLORK.

LISTEN, GLORK! IF YOU CAN'T COOL OFF WITHOUT TAKING YOUR SPITE OUT ON YOUR OWN PEOPLE, GET OFF THIS PLANET RIGHT NOW! OTHERWISE YOU WON'T LIVE LONG ENOUGH TO GET THE **CHANCE** TO LEAVE!

BY THE TIME GLORK RECOVERS FROM HIS SURPRISE, SPACEHAWK IS GONE....

WHO DOES THAT MUSCLE-BOUND OAF THINK HE IS — **ANOTHER SPACEHAWK**? I'LL SHOW HIM THAT I, GLORK, CANNOT BE FRIGHTENED!

GLORK STAMPS OUT OF HIS QUARTERS AND HEADS TOWARD HIS HANGAR, THROWING TO GROUND AN INNOCENT BYSTANDER.

OUT OF MY WAY, WORM! IF YOU AND THE REST OF MY MEN HAD USED MORE FORCE, INSTEAD OF RELYING ON YOUR FEEBLE MINDS, I'D HAVE WON THE ELECTION!

I SWEAR THIS IS THE LAST TIME I TAKE ANY MORE OF THAT KIND OF TREATMENT FROM HIM!

GLORK LEAPS INTO HIS SWIFTEST SHIP, AND HEADS INTO THE SKY....

SOON HE ARRIVES AT HIS MOUNTAIN LABORATORY — A PLACE ALSO USED AS A HANGOUT FOR HIS MEN...

HERE COMES GLORK!

HE'LL BE PLENTY SORE BECAUSE OF LOSING THE ELECTION! WE'D BETTER STAY OUT OF HIS WAY!

WE WERE CRAZY TO THINK HE'D EVER WIN! LOOKS LIKE WE'LL HAVE TO GO BACK TO SNATCHING PURSES!

HIS OWN MEN FEAR THE COMING OF GLORK!

GLORK HURRIES TO ONE OF THE LABORATORY ROOMS, AND MAKES HASTY ADJUSTMENTS ON SOME OF HIS COMPLEX APPARATUS.....

FIVE YEARS I'VE SPENT DEVELOPING THIS ATTRACTOR MACHINE IN SECRET — PREPARING IT FOR THE TIME WHEN I'D USE IT TO CONQUER OTHER PLANETS! BUT **NOW** I'M GOING TO USE IT TO DESTROY **THIS** PLANET AND ITS MISERABLE, UNGRATEFUL INHABITANTS! JUST TO MAKE SURE THE MACHINE IS IN GOOD ORDER, I'LL USE IT ON THOSE TWO SHIPS ON THE HORIZON!

TWO METAL OBJECTS MOVE UP FROM THE TOP OF THE LABORATORY BUILDING....

EACH IS FOCUSED ON A DISTANT SHIP, AND INVISIBLE RAYS OF FORCE STREAM OUT FROM THEM...

THE FORCE IS SUCH THAT IT GREATLY MULTIPLIES THE NATURAL MASS ATTRACTION THAT ANY OBJECT HAS FOR ANOTHER OBJECT, AND THE CRAFT ARE SWIFTLY DRAWN TOWARD EACH OTHER...

CRASH!

AHA! IT IS WORKING BEAUTIFULLY! NOW TO TRAIN ONE OF THE ATTRACTOR BEAMS ON YONDER MOUNTAINS, AND THE OTHER ON PHOBOS, ONE OF THE MARTIAN MOONS! THE MOON WILL BE PLUCKED OUT OF THE SKY, AND WHEN IT HITS MARS, EVERY ONE ON THE PLANET WILL PERISH— EXCEPT **ME!**

THE MARTIAN MAKES CAREFUL ADJUSTMENTS— THEN THROWS FULL POWER INTO THE ATTRACTOR...

LIKE A GIGANTIC INVISIBLE CLAW THE FORCE REACHES OUT WITH THE SPEED OF LIGHT TOWARD THE MARTIAN MOON....

THE SAVAGE INHABITANTS OF PHOBOS ARE TERRORIZED BY A SUDDEN GROUND-SPLITTING QUAKE AS THE SMALL PLANET IS YANKED FROM ITS ORBIT...

SPACEHAWK, WHO HAS SHADOWED GLORK, AND WHOSE SHIP NOW HOVERS HIGH OVER THE LABORATORY, DECIDES TO INVESTIGATE THE MARTIAN'S ACTIONS.

SWIFT AS A BULLET HE DESCENDS FROM THE STRATOSPHERE...

AH! THE INDICATOR SHOWS THAT PHOBOS IS OUT OF ITS ORBIT! WITHIN THE HOUR, THIS MACHINE OF MINE WILL HAVE DRAGGED IT WELL ON ITS WAY TO MARS!

GET AWAY FROM THAT MACHINE, GLORK! I GAVE YOU FAIR WARNING ABOUT THIS SORT OF THING! NOW I'M GOING TO KEEP MY PROMISE!

HUH? WHY — IT'S **YOU AGAIN!** I'VE HAD ENOUGH OF THIS! YOU CAN'T BLUFF **ME! GET OUT!**

KEEP YOUR HANDS OFF THAT SIGNAL BUTTON, GLORK!

BUT ALREADY GLORK HAS PRESSED THE BUTTON, AND ALARM LIGHTS FLASH THRU-OUT THE BUILDING.

GLORK IS GIVING US A CALL FOR HELP FROM THE SPECIAL EQUIPMENT ROOM! **LET'S GO!**

NOW I'LL JUST REVERSE THIS FORCE YOU HAVE HERE, AND SPOIL YOUR MOON-PULLING TRICK!

WHO ARE YOU? HOW CAN YOU KNOW WHAT I'M DOING?

BEFORE SPACEHAWK CAN CHANGE THE CONTROLS, GLORK'S MEN SUDDENLY SWARM UPON HIM.

I'LL GET RID OF ALL OF THEM RIGHT NOW! THE CREATURES IN THE PIT BELOW HAVEN'T HAD A FULL MEAL IN A LONG TIME!

THE MARTIAN LEAPS TO THE EXTREME END OF THE ROOM, AND YANKS A HIDDEN LEVER..

DOWN THEY GO!

THE FLOOR SWINGS DOWN, PLUNGING THE STRUGGLING MEN INTO THE DEPTHS.....

USING HIS ANTI-GRAVITY BOLT, SPACEHAWK STOPS HIS FALL, AND DARTS UPWARD — BUT TOO LATE TO GET BACK THRU THE CLOSING TRAP DOOR....

AS SPACEHAWK STRIKES THE UNDER SIDE OF THE TRAP DOOR, HIS GUN IS JARRED FROM ITS HOLSTER...

HE SWOOPS DOWN AFTER IT— BUT GLORK'S PIT CREATURES, SNARLING OVER THEIR HUMAN MEAL, KEEP HIM FROM RETRIEVING THE WEAPON....

I DON'T LIKE TO BE RECOGNIZED, BECAUSE MY ENEMIES TRY ALL THE HARDER TO KILL ME — BUT THIS DISGUISE IS TOO UNCOMFORTABLE FOR THE TOUGH JOB I'LL HAVE TEARING MY WAY OUT OF HERE!

MEANWHILE, MOST OF THE PEOPLE OF MARS ARE TERROR-STRICKEN AS THEY SEE THE MOON LOOMING LARGER AND LARGER IN THE SKY....

WE'RE LOST!

THE TIDAL PULL BETWEEN THE TWO PLANETS BECOMES SO STRONG THAT A PART OF THE WATER IN MARS' LARGEST CANAL IS WHIPPED UP INTO SPACE....

THOUSANDS TAKE TO THE SKIES IN OVER-CROWDED SHIPS, BUT THE MASSES CAN ONLY STAY AND AWAIT THEIR FATE.....

ONLY A LITTLE LONGER, AND MARS WILL BE A SHATTERED, BLOOD-SOAKED PLANET! I'D BETTER TAKE MY VALUABLES AND GET OUT OF HERE BEFORE IT IS TOO LATE!

GLORK PREPARES TO LEAVE AS HIS DESTRUCTION OF MARS CONTINUES.

BENEATH THE FLOOR, SPACEHAWK'S GREAT STRENGTH FINALLY ENABLES HIM TO TEAR OUT A PART OF THE TRAP DOOR MECHANISM...

THE FLOOR FALLS OPEN, AND SPACEHAWK CAUTIOUSLY ASCENDS INTO THE LABORATORY....

GONE! I HATE TO LET HIM ESCAPE, BUT I MUST REVERSE THE ATTRACTOR BEAM FORCE RIGHT AWAY!

SPACEHAWK'S KEEN MIND QUICKLY ABSORBS THE PRINCIPLES OF THE MACHINE, AND HE SWIFTLY MAKES ADJUSTMENTS....

THERE! THAT SHOULD SOON SHOVE PHOBOS BACK INTO ITS ORBIT!

MARS QUAKES AS THE TIDAL PULL IS SUDDENLY REVERSED—

RETURNING TO TAKE ANOTHER LOAD OF VALUABLES TO HIS SHIP, GLORK IS AMAZED AT WHAT HE SEES....

SPACEHAWK! IT WAS YOU— IN DISGUISE!

RIGHT! I'VE REVERSED YOUR ATTRACTOR'S POWER, GLORK! PHOBOS WILL SOON BE ON ITS WAY BACK, AND A FEW BILLION PEOPLE ARE GOING TO BE PRETTY ANGRY WHEN THEY FIND OUT WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR WHAT'S HAPPENED!

YOU MEDDLING SPY! THEY'LL NEVER FIND OUT THRU YOU! TRY TO ESCAPE **THIS**!

SPACEHAWK DODGES WITH INCREDIBLE SWIFTNESS, AND POUNCES ON THE MARTIAN.

I SHOULDN'T WISH TO BE IN YOUR SHOES WHEN I DELIVER YOU TO THE MARTIAN COUNCIL!

NO! GIVE ME A CHANCE! THEY'D BURN ME ALIVE IN THE SULPHUR PITS!

PERHAPS IT WOULD BE BETTER TO CAST YOU LOOSE IN THE INSECT HILLS! THE VULTURE FLIES WOULD WORK ON YOU A LONG TIME BEFORE YOU'D DIE!

SPARE ME THAT DEATH! DON'T TAKE ME THERE!

MAD WITH FEAR, THE MARTIAN TEARS HIMSELF LOOSE, AND STREAKS OUT THE DOOR....

RUN WHILE YOU CAN, YOU YELLOW RAT! YOU'RE NOT GOING FAR!

HA! THIS IS ONE TIME THE GREAT SPACEHAWK WON'T GET WHAT HE'S AFTER!

GLORK RACES TO HIS WAITING SHIP

GLORK STREAKS STRAIGHT UP INTO THE SKY.....

I'LL TURN THE ATTRACTOR POWER BACK TO ITS FORMER CONDITION, AND SWING THE HIGH RAY ON GLORK'S SHIP! THAT SHOULD DRAG HIM BACK!

SOMETHING'S THE MATTER! I'M HEADING BACK TOWARD GROUND!

SPACEHAWK LEAPS FROM THE BUILDING, AND THE NEXT INSTANT THE MARTIAN'S SHIP PLOUGHS INTO THE LABORATORY.

THE CRAFT SPLITS OPEN, AND GLORK IS HURLED TO THE SLIMY FLOOR OF THE PIT BENEATH THE BUILDING....

THE PIT CREATURES PUT A SUDDEN STOP TO HIS SCREAMS OF TERROR.

LATER, IN HIS PALACE, KING ROBO LISTENS TO SPACEHAWK AS HE EXPLAINS, BY TELSOR WAVE FROM HIS SHIP, ALL THAT HAS HAPPENED...

..... AND THAT'S THE STORY, KING ROBO! YOUR PEOPLE SHOULD KNOW THE REASON FOR THE NEAR CALAMITY. OTHERWISE THEY MIGHT FEAR IT AGAIN!

THE PEOPLE OF THIS PLANET OWE YOU THEIR LIVES, SPACEHAWK! I IMPLORE YOU TO RETURN TO MARS, THAT WE MAY AT LEAST THANK YOU!

SORRY, KING ROBO, BUT I MUST BE ON MY WAY! GOODBYE!

SPACEHAWK'S ADVENTURES WITH THE JUNGLE MONSTERS ON THE PLANET URANUS APPEAR IN TARGET COMICS NEXT MONTH.

SPACEHAWK

• THE SUPERHUMAN ENEMY OF CRIME •

by BASIL WOLVERTON

AS SPACEHAWK CRUISES THRU SPACE, HIS ALERT MIND CATCHES VIBRATIONS OF EVIL. WITH HIS POWERFUL ELECTRO-SCOPE, HE DISCOVERS THAT AN INTER-PLANETARY POLICE SHIP IS PURSUING A PIRATE CRAFT TOWARD THE PLANET URANUS....

THOSE PIRATES ARE LEADING THAT POLICE SHIP INTO THE CITY OF GARK! IT'S A PIRATE TOWN, AND THE POLICE WILL BE TRAPPED! PERHAPS I CAN GET THERE IN TIME TO HELP!

WHILE SPACEHAWK SPEEDS FORTH TO ATTEMPT A RESCUE, CAPTAIN DAKK, PLUTONIAN COMMANDER OF THE POLICE SHIP, SEES THE PIRATE CRAFT SLIP OUT OF SIGHT IN THE URANIAN CITY.....

THEY'LL NOT ESCAPE! WE'LL SEARCH EVERY BUILDING UNTIL WE FIND THEM!

JUBUN, CORRUPT RULER OF THE CITY, ISSUES ORDERS TO HIS BRUTAL MEN.

SURROUND THAT POLICE SHIP AFTER IT LANDS! WHEN ITS MEN COME OUT, SEIZE THEM AND THROW THEM OVER THE OUTER WALLS!

THE URANIAN PIRATES SWIFTLY OVERCOME THE UNSUSPECTING POLICE...

WHAT IS THIS? CAN'T YOU SEE WE'RE INTERPLANETARY POLICE?

SO WHAT? I'M THE LAW IN THIS TOWN, AND WHEN COPPERS COME SNOOPING AROUND HERE, WE FEED THEM TO THE JUNGLE BEASTS!

OVER THE WALL WITH THESE SWINE WHO CALL THEM-SELVES THE LAW!

AS THE MEN ARE HURLED TO THE GROUND FAR BELOW, FIERCE JUNGLE MONSTERS RUSH FORTH TO DEVOUR THEM.

ONLY SLIGHTLY INJURED BY HIS FALL, CAPTAIN DAKK MIRACULOUSLY DARTS FROM UNDER THE SNARLING BEASTS, AND RUNS FOR THE JUNGLE...

MINUTES LATER HE IS DEEP WITHIN THE HEAVY VEGETATION, AND SAFE FROM THE URANIANS. THEN SUDDENLY A JUNGLE BAT SWOOPS UPON HIM.....

AT THAT MOMENT SPACEHAWK DROPS FROM THE SKY, AND LANDS WITH DEADLY IMPACT ON THE CREATURE'S SKULL.

HE LEAPS FROM THE STUNNED BAT JUST BEFORE IT CRASHES.....

—AND GOES TO CAPTAIN DAKK, WHO HAS FALLEN FROM THE TREE.

SPACEHAWK! IF ONLY YOU'D ARRIVED SOONER! MY CREW IS DEAD, AND THIS IS THE END OF ME!

TAKE IT EASY, CAPTAIN DAKK! I'LL SEE WHAT I CAN DO!

IT'S TOO LATE TO SAVE MY BODY! BUT MY **BRAIN**— YOU COULD SAVE IT! WITH YOUR GREAT SURGICAL KNOWLEDGE, YOU COULD GRAFT IT INTO ONE OF THE BEASTS OF THIS JUNGLE! PERHAPS THEN I COULD AVENGE MY MEN!

I'M AFRAID YOU DON'T REALIZE WHAT YOU'RE ASKING, CAPTAIN!

PLEASE! THERE'S NOTHING TO LOSE! I HAVE ONLY A FEW MINUTES LEFT!

ALL RIGHT! I'LL TRY! BUT I CAN'T SAY JUST HOW THIS WILL TURN OUT!

A TELEPATHIC SIGNAL TO HIS ROBOT PILOT BRINGS SPACEHAWK'S SHIP INTO THE JUNGLE.....

INSIDE, SPACEHAWK PUTS THE DYING CAPTAIN ON THE OPERATING TABLE...

TEN MINUTES LATER THE PLUTONIAN'S BODY SUCCUMBS TO ITS WOUNDS, BUT THE BRAIN, CAREFULLY REMOVED FROM THE SKULL, REMAINS ALIVE IN A STRANGE LIQUID SPACEHAWK HAS PREPARED....

NOW TO CAPTURE SOME CREATURE IN WHICH TO PLANT THE BRAIN!

SPACEHAWK PATIENTLY WAITS AT THE DOOR OF HIS SHIP. PRESENTLY THE GROUND QUAKES WITH THE APPROACH OF A BEAST. THE JUNGLE GROWTHS PART, AND —

A MONSTROUS HORNOSAUR CRASHES INTO VIEW! LEAPING IN FRONT OF THE CREATURE, SPACEHAWK SPRAYS A POTENT ANESTHETIC INTO ITS NOSTRILS....

I'LL HAVE TO WORK FAST! NO TELLING WHEN SOME OTHER BEAST WILL DECIDE TO INTERRUPT THIS OPERATION!

LEAVING IN THAT PART OF THE BRAIN WHICH CONTROLS THE HORNOSAURS MUSCLES, SPACEHAWK REMOVES THE REST, AND SKILLFULLY SUBSTITUTES THE HUMAN BRAIN OF CAPTAIN DAKK.

A LITTLE OF THIS RAY, AND THE INCISIONS WILL BE COMPLETELY HEALED!

HE SHOULD RECOVER FROM THE ANESTHETIC ANY MINUTE NOW! YES — HE'S BEGINNING TO MOVE!

THE MONSTER SLOWLY GETS TO ITS FEET AND INTENTLY SURVEYS SPACEHAWK.

CAN YOU UNDERSTAND ME? IF YOU'RE ALL RIGHT, NOD YOUR HEAD!

HE'S NODDING HIS HEAD! THE OPERATION IS A SUCCESS, BUT THE POOR BRUTE WILL NEVER BE ABLE TO TALK!

GOOD LUCK TO YOU, AND DON'T WORRY ABOUT AVENGING YOUR MEN! I THINK I'LL BE ABLE TO TAKE CARE OF THAT!

SPACEHAWK ROARS OUT OF THE JUNGLE, AND FLIES INTO THE CITY OF GARK.

SPACEHAWK! COME RIGHT IN! THIS IS AN UNEXPECTED PLEASURE!

JUBUN, I'VE COME TO SETTLE WITH YOU AND YOUR MEN FOR DESTROYING THE POLICE SHIP THAT LANDED HERE THIS MORNING!

BUT SPACEHAWK— SURELY YOU'RE NOT ACCUSING **ME** OF SUCH A THING! THE MOMENT I HEARD ABOUT IT, I ORDERED THE OFFENDERS CLAMPED IN THE TORTURE RACKS! I DON'T TOLERATE MURDERERS IN THIS CITY!

I'M NOT HERE TO LISTEN TO YOUR LIES, JUBUN! YOU AND YOUR FOLLOWERS HAVE TO PAY FOR YOUR CRIMES, AND I'M HERE TO SEE THAT YOU **DO** PAY!

SPACEHAWK'S KEEN MIND WARNS HIM OF DANGER BEHIND HIM. HE WHIRLS, AND—

THERE'S ONLY ONE KIND OF TREATMENT YOU MUGS RESPECT!

AND THIS STEEL WHIP IS SOMETHING **YOU** WILL RESPECT!

BEFORE SPACEHAWK CAN FREE HIMSELF, MORE URANIANS RUSH IN UPON HIM.....

HE IS DRAGGED AWAY AND CLAMPED IN A TORTURE DEVICE.

WHEN THIS MACHINE BEGINS TO PULL YOUR ARMS AND LEGS OUT OF THEIR SOCKETS, YOU'LL WISH YOU'D NEVER POKED YOUR NOSE IN **MY** AFFAIRS!

START IT UP, YOU MEN! AND DON'T RUN IT TOO FAST! I WANT HIM TO SUFFER PLENTY BEFORE IT PULLS HIM APART!

SUMMONING ALL HIS GREAT STRENGTH, SPACEHAWK YANKS THE WINCH GEARS APART...

LOOK, JUBUN! HE'S BENDING THE DEVICE SO BADLY THAT IT WILL NOT WORK!

STAND BACK, EVERY ONE! I'LL FLOG THE LIFE OUT OF HIM RIGHT NOW!

WITH HIS MEN BOISTEROUSLY JEERING SPACE-HAWK, JUBUN PUTS ALL HIS MAD STRENGTH INTO THE FIRST BLOW...

UP ON THE WALL, ONE OF THE GUARDS GLANCES OUT TOWARD THE JUNGLE. THE SMIRK FADES FROM HIS LIPS AS HE STARES AT AN ALARMING SIGHT....

HERE COMES A WHOLE ARMY OF JUNGLE MONSTERS! LOOKS AS THOUGH THEY'RE GOING TO TRY CRASHING INTO THE CITY!

LED BY THE HORNOSAUR THAT IS NOW DOMINATED BY CAPTAIN DAKK'S BRAIN, THE CREATURES THUNDER FORTH AND HURL THEIR GREAT BODIES AGAINST THE WALL.

AS THE BEASTS CRASH THRU THE WALLS, THE SCREAMING URANIANS FLEE IN ALL DIRECTIONS, LEAVING SPACEHAWK SHACKLED TO THE TORTURE WINCH. JUST AS THE CHARGING HORNOSAUR WOULD CRUSH HIM, THE CREATURE RECOGNIZES SPACEHAWK.

WITH ONE MORE HERCULEAN EFFORT, SPACEHAWK WRENCHES HIMSELF FREE.

—AND LEAPS UPON THE HORNOSAUR'S BACK...

HEAD FOR THE HANGARS! THE URANIANS WILL ESCAPE IF THEY CAN GET TO THEIR SHIPS!

WHILE THE OTHER MONSTERS PURSUE AND DEVOUR THE FLEEING URANIANS, THE HORNOSAUR DEMOLISHES HANGARS AND SHIPS....

JUBUN, WHO HAS DARTED TO SAFETY AT THE FIRST SIGN OF DANGER, RUSHES TO HIS PRIVATE HANGAR...

THOSE BRUTES WILL GET SPACEHAWK AND MY MEN, BUT THEY WON'T GET **ME**!

SPACEHAWK'S KEEN EYES SPOT JUBUN'S SHIP EMERGING FROM HIS QUARTERS.

THERE GOES JUBUN! WE CAN'T LET HIM ESCAPE!

THE HORNOSAUR LUNGES TOWARD THE SHIP, AND RIPS IT OPEN....

JUBUN LEAPS OUT BEFORE THE CRAFT CRASHES....

NOW I'M GOING TO GIVE YOU A DOSE OF THE SORT OF STUFF YOU'VE BEEN HANDING OUT TO OTHERS!

SPACEHAWK! HOW DID YOU—? **LOOK OUT! THAT MONSTER WILL KILL US!**

NEVER FEAR! THIS BEAST IS AN OLD FRIEND OF MINE! TO PROVE IT, I'LL HAVE HIM TAKE US FOR A RIDE OUT TOWARD THE JUNGLE, WHERE IT'S MUCH MORE PEACEFUL AND QUIET!

LET ME GO! CAN'T YOU SEE WE'LL BOTH BE KILLED?

NOT **BOTH** OF US, JUBUN! JUST **YOU**! OFF YOU GO, AND YOU'RE GETTING MORE OF A BREAK THAN YOU GAVE THE INTERPLANETARY POLICE!

HELP!

THE SMALLER JUNGLE CREATURES, LYING IN WAIT FOR URANIANS FLEEING FROM THE CITY, MAKE SHORT WORK OF JUBUN....

AGAIN SPACEHAWK SENDS OUT A TELEPATHIC CALL TO HIS SHIP, AND A FEW MOMENTS LATER IT APPEARS.

AS SPACEHAWK ROARS INTO THE SKY, THE HORNOSAUR WAVES A SINEWY TENTACLE, THEN AMBLES AWAY TO A LONG AND PEACEFUL LIFE OF FREEDOM IN THE JUNGLES.

THANKS FOR GETTING ME OUT OF A TOUGH SPOT, OLD FELLOW, AND CONGRATULATIONS ON THE THOROUGH JOB YOU AND YOUR FRIENDS DID! NOW I MUST BE ON MY WAY! PERHAPS I'LL SEE YOU AGAIN IN THE NEXT FEW HUNDRED YEARS YOU HAVE TO LOOK FORWARD TO AS A HEALTHY YOUNG HORNOSAUR!

IN SPACEHAWK'S NEXT ADVENTURE, HE AND AN OLD FRIEND BATTLE A HORDE OF DOG-MEN FROM NEPTUNE. IT IS IN NEXT MONTH'S **TARGET COMICS!**

THE SCRATCHES OF DOOM

A *Spacehawk* Adventure

by Basil Wolverton

SPACEHAWK stared at the grotesquely sprawled corpse on the floor. Then his gray, piercing eyes darted around the office, taking in every detail under the brilliant rays of his electron flashlight.

"I can't believe Meredith would take his own life," he said to Al Grayson, Chief of the Inter-planetary Bureau of Investigation on Venus, who stood beside him. "This doesn't smell of suicide to me, even with his atom gun there in his hand — and this note."

Grayson took the proffered piece of paper, and read it again:

"Dear Al:

I want you to know that I've appreciated the chance to work with you here on the Venus Diamond Mines' smuggling case. But since my wife died, I haven't felt like carrying on. Sorry to let you down this way, but it's too much for me. Jack Meredith."

"It's Meredith's writing," Grayson observed.

"Right!" Spacehawk agreed. "But there's a peculiar thing about that note. Look at it closely — between the lines!"

Grayson held the paper closer to his eyes, and Spacehawk moved his light so that its rays fell at a slant upon the note.

"Hmm!" Grayson muttered. "That *is* peculiar. Wonder what caused that?"

Spacehawk returns—by popular request —to match his keen brain against the wits of a murderer.

"If I can find out," Spacehawk replied, "perhaps we'll know the *real* reason Meredith is dead! Have the boys round up Gul Jopak, the Venusian who swore that as soon as he was freed from prison, he'd get Meredith. Jopak has been out about a week now."

SEVERAL hours later Spacehawk sat gazing across his desk into the gaunt, green face of Gul Jopak.

"I'll give you one more chance, Jopak," he said, "for you to tell me where you were all last night."

The Venusian nervously rubbed his long, scaly fingers. His beady eyes shot a venomous look at his questioner.

"No tell!" he hissed. "No tell nothing!"

"All right, Jopak," Spacehawk said. Then he opened a drawer, took out the first description card that came within his reach, and pushed it toward Jopak.

"Tell me if you've seen any one answering that description in the last week," he said.

The Venusian glanced suspiciously at the card. Spacehawk watched him closely, saw his mouth jerk slightly after the manner of one whose lips move in silent reading. Suddenly the Venusian straightened up his head, and looked nervously about him.

"No tell nothing!" he repeated in a voice that wavered with both irritation and fright.

Spacehawk turned to Grayson, and nodded toward the door. Grayson strode across the room, and admitted a squatty, hairy-faced Martian. The fellow waddled swiftly into the office, his yellow, saucer-like eyes rolling ludicrously in his large, rotund head as he took in his surroundings.

"Here I am, Spacehawk," the Martian rumbled in the bass tones characteristic of his race. "What can I do for you?"

"Have a chair, Tylod," Spacehawk said. "I realize that as foreman of the Venusian Diamond Mines, you're a busy man, but I've called you over here to take a look at this Venusian. I'd like to know if you've seen him around the mines lately."

Tylod twisted in his chair, and blandly surveyed the nervous Jopak from head to foot.

"He looks very much like any one of the men we employ at the mines," Tylod commented. "Is there some special reason why I should recognize him?"

"He's the one who tried to rob the diamond vaults last year before you worked for the mining company. Here's the dope on the case."

Spacehawk extended some papers to Tylod. The Martian dragged his chair up close to the desk, laid them out flat before him. Leaning forward, so that his bulgy eyes nearly touched his hairy hand, he slowly drew his claw-tipped forefinger along under each line as he read.

Suddenly Jopak leaped to his feet, threw his bony arms into the air and screamed, "You no right to put me back in prison! I just let out from prison! I good man now! No reason for go back!"

Like an arrow he streaked across the room and thru the door. Grayson whipped out his atom pistol, and leaped in pursuit.

"Let him go!" Spacehawk shouted.

"But, Spacehawk!" Grayson burst out in amazement. "That fellow ——"

"He's not the man I was looking for!" Spacehawk cut in.

"May I ask what this is all about?" Tylod said.

Spacehawk's voice was like a knife as he answered, "You know even more about this than I do, Tylod. *You* are the one who murdered Jack Meredith last night!"

THE Martian came up from his chair, his flabby chin shaking in amazement. Then, quick as a lightning flash, he flicked an ugly atom pistol out from beneath his cloak, and fired point blank at Spacehawk's head.

As the Martian whirled to pick off Grayson, a tiny, blue flame spit into his chest, for the I. B. I. Chief already had his pistol in his hand. Tylod clawed the air, uttered a low groan, and fell upon his back.

"Good work, old fellow!" Spacehawk said.

Grayson whistled with relief.

"Thought he got you!" he said.

"He was too near-sighted to hit even the broad side of a space liner!" Spacehawk exclaimed. "In fact, it was his near-sightedness that proved he was Meredith's murderer. Meredith confided in me that he suspected Tylod of smuggling diamonds from the mines. Tylod apparently learned of this so he forced Meredith to write that suicide note, then murdered him.

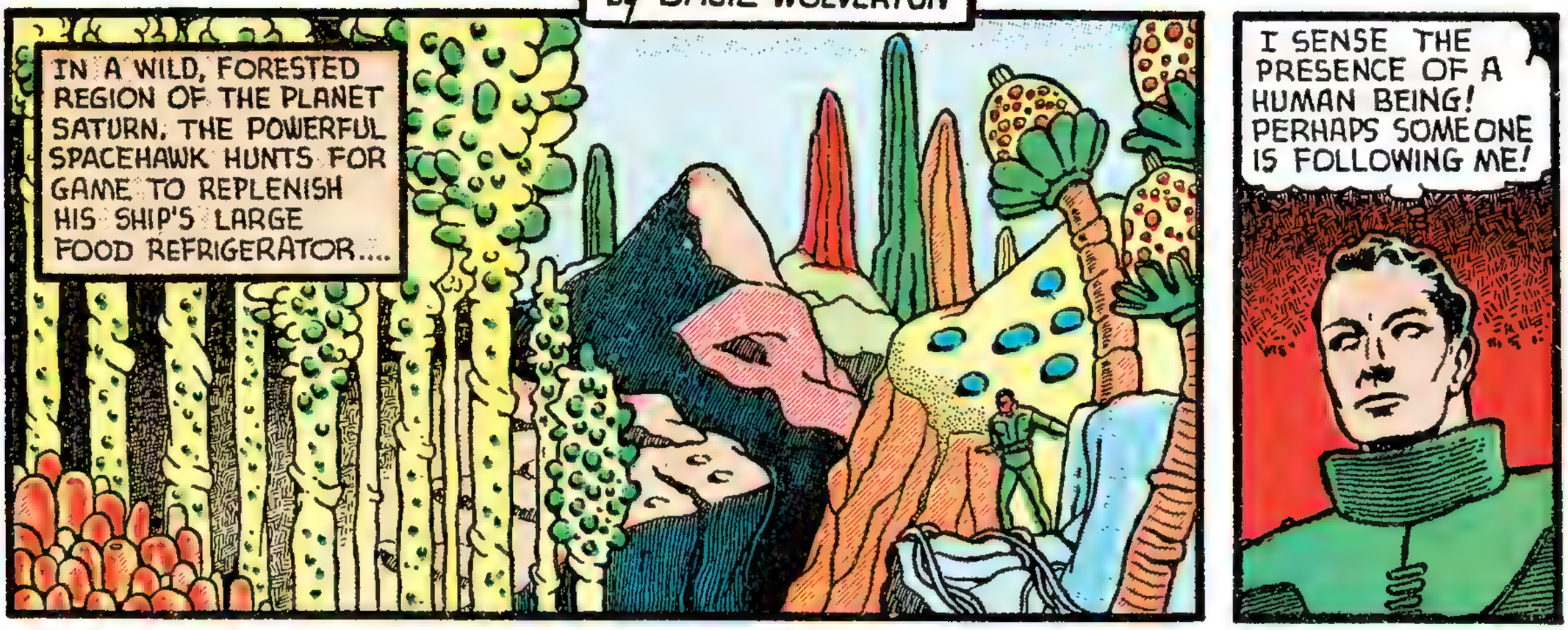
"Naturally Tylod read the note, and having bad eyes, as do most Martians, ran his fore-claw under each line, like a child learning to read. That's what caused those faint scratches you saw between the lines of Meredith's note.

"And Tylod made the same faint scratches on the paper I gave him to read!"

THE END

SPACEHAWK
SUPERHUMAN ENEMY OF CRIME

by BASIL WOLVERTON


IN A WILD, FORESTED REGION OF THE PLANET SATURN, THE POWERFUL SPACEHAWK HUNTS FOR GAME TO REPLENISH HIS SHIP'S LARGE FOOD REFRIGERATOR....
I SENSE THE PRESENCE OF A HUMAN BEING! PERHAPS SOMEONE IS FOLLOWING ME!
THERE HE IS! WHY — IT'S GALAR, AN OLD FRIEND FROM MY NATIVE SOLAR SYSTEM!
GALAR! WHAT IN THE SUN'S BLAZES ARE YOU DOING HERE?
WELL BLOW ME THRU A SPIRAL NEBULA IF IT ISN'T MY OLD PAL, SPACEHAWK!
IT'S GREAT SEEING YOU AGAIN, GALAR! WHAT HAVE YOU BEEN DOING ALL THESE YEARS?
OH — I JUST KEEP ON TRAVELING FROM PLANET TO PLANET! AND YOU— YOU'VE MADE QUITE A NAME FOR YOURSELF CRACKING DOWN ON THE BAD BOYS!
YES, I'M KEEPING BUSY! BUT IT'S NO MORE EXCITING THAN THE YEARS WE SPENT ON THE PLANET HOGO TAMING THOSE SAVAGE SNAKE MEN! REMEMBER?
MY BATTLE SCARS WON'T LET ME FORGET! FOR TWO YOUNGSTERS ONLY A COUPLE OF HUNDRED YEARS OLD, WE HAD SOME MIGHTY WILD ADVENTURES!

TELL ME, GALAR — IF YOU DO NOTHING BUT TRAVEL, HOW HAVE YOU MANAGED TO EXIST FOR THE PAST SIX HUNDRED YEARS?

I — WELL, I MANAGE TO SCARE UP ENOUGH RAW SUPPLIES TO KEEP ME GOING!

GALAR, OUR KIND TALKS WITH THE MIND AS WELL AS WITH THE TONGUE, BUT YOU HAVE THROWN UP A MENTAL BARRICADE AGAINST ME! WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO HIDE?

ALL RIGHT, SPACEHAWK! I MAY AS WELL ADMIT I ROB SPACE SHIPS FOR MY LIVING! BUT BELIEVE ME, I'VE NEVER KILLED OR CRIPPLED SO MUCH AS A SINGLE PERSON IN MY CAREER!

THAT IS SOMETHING OF A RECORD, I DARE SAY, BUT IT DOESN'T EXCUSE YOUR BEING A THIEF. I MUST WARN YOU, GALAR, THAT IF I EVER CATCH YOU ROBBING A SHIP, I'LL HAVE TO TREAT YOU AS AN ENEMY!

OH-HO! BUT I AM NOT ONE TO BE CAUGHT — EVEN BY YOU, SPACEHAWK! IF YOU SHOULD EVER MANAGE TO DO IT, I GIVE YOU MY WORD I'LL WILLINGLY GIVE UP MY PROFESSION!

I'D LIKE TO SEE THAT HAPPEN! I CAN'T UNDERSTAND WHY A MAN OF YOUR MENTAL AND PHYSICAL STRENGTH SHOULD CHOOSE TO LIVE SO DISHONORABLY!

WELL, — SO LONG, SPACEHAWK! UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES, I SUPPOSE I'D BETTER SHOVE OFF!

GOOD-BYE, GALAR!

GALAR STRIDES TO HIS SHIP, AND A MOMENT LATER IT ROARS INTO THE SATURNIAN SKY.....

SPACEHAWK HURRIES TO HIS OWN SHIP, AND TRAINS THE ELECTROSCOPE ON GALAR'S CRAFT....

I CAN'T LET HIM GO ON LIKE THAT! HE'S BOUND TO END UP AT THE BUSINESS END OF SOMEONE'S ATOM PISTOL!

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HOURS LATER.

HERE I AM MILLIONS OF MILES OUT IN SPACE, AND NOT ANOTHER SHIP IN SIGHT — EXCEPT THAT APPROACHING PASSENGER LINER! THIS JOB WILL BE A CINCH!

GALAR SETS HIS SHIP ON A COURSE PARALLEL TO THAT OF THE LINER. THEN, ATTIRED IN SPACE ARMOR, HE LEAPS INTO THE VOID AND SWIFTLY PROPELS HIMSELF, WITH THE AID OF A SMALL ROCKET TUBE, TOWARD THE SPEEDING PASSENGER SHIP.

SOON HE IS CLINGING TO THE LINER'S BROAD TOP BY MEANS OF HIS MAGNETIZED BOOTS...

IF I'D BEEN SPOTTED, GUARDS WOULD BE SWARMING OUT HERE BY NOW! ONCE I CUT MY WAY INTO THIS OUTER HULL AND SEAL UP THE HOLE, THE REST SHOULD BE EASY!

SUDDENLY ANOTHER ARMORED FIGURE SWOOPS UPON GALAR.

SPACEHAWK! HOW DID YOU—

YOU'RE NOT THE FIRST TO UNDERESTIMATE THE POWER OF MY ELECTRO-SCOPE AND THE SPEED OF MY SHIP! GALAR, THIS IS YOUR LAST JOB!

SPACEHAWK, I DON'T LIKE TO BE TOLD WHAT I CAN OR CAN'T DO!

REMEMBER YOUR PROMISE! I'VE CAUGHT YOU RED-HANDED!

RIGHT! BUT YOU HAVEN'T TAKEN ME YET, AND I DON'T THINK YOU CAN!

INSTANTLY RECOVERING FROM GALAR'S ABRUPT ATTACK, SPACEHAWK SPRINGS FORWARD AND POUNDS GALAR BACKWARD WITH A MIGHTY BLOW.....

BEFORE GALAR CAN RETALIATE, SPACEHAWK COMES AT HIM LIKE A CYCLONE, LIFTING HIM OFF HIS FEET WITH ANOTHER FURIOUS THRUST OF HIS POWERFUL FIST....

HOW ABOUT IT, GALAR? ARE YOU READY TO STICK TO YOUR PROMISE?

YOU WIN, SPACEHAWK! YOU'RE THE FIRST MAN EVER TO KNOCK ME DOWN!

WE MUST GET OUT OF SIGHT IMMEDIATELY! LOOK!

A PIRATE SHIP COMING THIS WAY!

SPACEHAWK AND GALAR RACE TO THE LINER'S ROCKET BARRELS, AND THERE CONCEAL THEMSELVES IN THE SHADOWS TO AWAIT THE RAIDING CRAFT.

THE PIRATE SHIP WEAVES BACK AND FORTH IN FRONT OF THE LINER, FORCING IT TO HEAD TOWARD A WANDERING PLANETOID....

THE PASSENGER SHIP LANDS ON THE BARREN LITTLE ORB, AND THE PIRATE CRAFT DROPS DOWN BESIDE IT.....

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SCREAMING, BLOOD-THIRSTY NEPTUNIANS, PLUTONIANS AND JOVIANS POUR OUT OF THE PIRATE SHIP. UNDAUNTED BY THE GUN FIRE FROM THE LINER, THEY PREPARE TO CUT INTO THE HULL PLATES....

I'M GOING OUT THERE AFTER THOSE DEVILS! I DON'T SUPPOSE YOU'D CARE TO COME WITH ME.

YOU KNOW BETTER THAN THAT! **LET'S GO!** I NEVER DID CARE FOR THOSE NEPTUNIAN DOG-MEN!

LASHING OUT WITH TREMENDOUS STRENGTH, THE TWO PLOW INTO THE SURPRISED PIRATES..

IT'S SPACEHAWK! RUN FOR YOUR LIVES!

SOME OF THE FLEEING PIRATES ATTEMPT TO TAKE REFUGE IN THEIR SHIP, BUT THE LUNARIAN CAPTAIN OF THEIR CRAFT BARS THEIR WAY.....

GET BACK TO WORK ON THAT LINER, YOU YELLOW-LIVERED MORONS! **I'LL** TAKE CARE OF SPACEHAWK!

THIS WILL PUT AN END TO HIS BIG-TIME-HERO ANTICS!

A HISSING STREAM OF DEATH CRACKS AGAINST SPACEHAWK'S ARMOR.....

—BUT BEFORE THE FIERY FORCE CAN CUT THRU THE METAL, HE LEAPS UPWARD.....

HE THINKS I CAN'T HIT A MOVING TARGET, EH? I'LL SHOW HIM!

AS SPACEHAWK INTENDS IT, THE CAPTAIN LEAPS INTO THE OPEN. GALAR SPOTS THE CUE, AND LUNGES.....

TERRIFIED BY THE SUDDEN LOSS OF THEIR LEADER, THE PIRATES SCATTER IN CONFUSION....

GREAT WORK, GALAR! I SEE YOU'RE STILL FULL OF THE OLD ZIP!

THIS IS LIKE OLD TIMES! I HAVEN'T HAD SO MUCH FUN IN CENTURIES!

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THE MARTIAN COMMANDER OF THE LINER WAVES HIS THANKS—

—AND THE SHIP ROARS AWAY.....

WELL, SPACEHAWK, BOTH OUR SHIPS HAVE FLOWN OFF INTO SPACE, AND WE'LL NEVER SEE THEM AGAIN! WE'LL HAVE TO USE THE PIRATE CRATE TO ESCAPE FROM HERE!

I'M SURE WE'LL MAKE OUT ALL RIGHT, GALAR. FIRST, I WANT TO MAKE CERTAIN THAT NONE OF THE PIRATES CAN ESCAPE FROM HERE. I'LL BE BACK RIGHT AWAY!

TO GALAR'S HORROR, THE SHIP PLOWS INTO THE ASTEROID!

SPACEHAWK TAKES OFF IN THE PIRATE SHIP.....

WONDER WHY HE'S CLIMBING SO HIGH INTO THE SKY —?

SUFFERING SATELLITES! HE'S COMING DOWN OUT OF CONTROL!

NICE CRASH, WASN'T IT?

SPACEHAWK! I THOUGHT YOU WERE IN IT!

NOT MUCH! I JUMPED OUT AND LET IT CRASH! NOW THE PIRATES WILL BE BOTTLED UP HERE!

BUT HOW ARE WE GOING TO ESCAPE?

SPACEHAWK'S POWERFUL MIND SENDS OUT A MENTAL SIGNAL. THOUSANDS OF MILES AWAY, HIS ROBOT PILOT RECEIVES THE MESSAGE, AND TURNS THE CRAFT BACK TOWARD THE PLANETOID.

MY SHIP WILL BE HERE IN A SHORT WHILE. WHEN I'M NOT AT THE CONTROLS, I USE TELEPATHY TO GUIDE IT!

THAT'S MIRACULOUS! WITH THE EQUIPMENT YOU HAVE, THERES NO — **LISTEN!** WHAT'S THAT SCREAMING SOUND?

VULTOIDS! THE SHIP CRASH BROUGHT THEM OUT OF THEIR UNDERGROUND NESTS!

WE'VE GOT TO GET OUT OF HERE! THOSE THINGS LOOK PLENTY UGLY!

AS SPACEHAWK AND GALAR RUSH FOR THE PROTECTION OF CAVES IN DISTANT ROCKS, THE ANGRY REPTILES SWARM UPON THEM. THE MEN PICK OFF THE NEAREST ONES WITH THEIR GUNS. THEN ONE OF THE VULTOIDS STREAKS PAST, SEIZING THEIR WEAPONS IN ITS JAWS....

ANOTHER REPTILE DIVES AT GALAR, HURLING HIM TO THE GROUND....

ON YOUR FEET, GALAR! IF THESE DEVILS CAN GET US ON THE GROUND, THEY'LL START SCOOPING DIRT ON US AND WE'LL SOON BE BURIED ALIVE!

SPACEHAWK STRUGGLES TO KEEP ON HIS FEET, BUT THE VULTOIDS FORCE HIM DOWN....

INSTANTLY THE REPTILES TOSS ROCKS AND DIRT UPON THE PRONE MEN. THEY ARE ALL BUT BURIED, WHEN SPACEHAWK HEARS THE DRONE OF HIS SHIP. HE GIVES A MENTAL ORDER FOR THE CRAFT TO DIVE LOW. THE SHIP ROARS OVERHEAD, SCATTERING THE VULTOIDS...

COME ON, GALAR! IT'S ALL OVER!

YOU'VE SAVED MY LIFE, SPACEHAWK! TOO BAD I'M NOT WORTHY OF THE DEED!

NONSENSE! YOU CAN MORE THAN MAKE UP FOR ALL THE ROBBERIES YOU'VE COMMITTED!

GALAR, THERE ARE THOUSANDS OF SOLAR SYSTEMS IN THIS UNIVERSE. MANY OF THEM NEED STRONG MEN TO MAINTAIN LAW AND ORDER. WHY DON'T YOU PICK OUT ONE OF THEM, JUST AS I HAVE DONE, AND FIGHT AGAINST CRIME?

BY THE BELT OF ORION, **I'LL DO IT!** BUT WAIT!—I ALMOST FORGOT THAT I NO LONGER HAVE A SHIP!

YOU'LL GET YOUR SHIP, GALAR! WE'LL START OVERTAKING IT NOW!

WHAT! YOU MEAN THIS TUB CAN GO **THAT** FAST? WHY,— YOU'D HAVE TO TRAVEL A MILLION MILES AN HOUR!

IT'S NOT IMPOSSIBLE! I HAPPEN TO KNOW A LITTLE SECRET OF APPLYING ATOMIC POWER!

SEVERAL HOURS LATER—

THERE IT IS AHEAD!

WE'LL FLY UP BESIDE IT, SO THAT YOU CAN GET ABOARD!

SO LONG, SPACEHAWK, AND THANKS FOR PUTTING ME RIGHT! HOPE I SEE YOU AGAIN BEFORE ANOTHER SIX HUNDRED YEARS PASS!

GOOD LUCK, GALAR! I HOPE SO, TOO!

GALAR LEAPS ACROSS TO HIS SHIP...

—AND STREAKS OFF TOWARD OUTER SPACE— AND A NEW KIND OF LIFE.....

NOW TO GET BACK TO SATURN, AND FINISH THE HUNTING I STARTED!

I SHOULD HAVE PREVAILED UPON GALAR TO COME WITH ME! HE WOULD ENJOY IT!

AGAIN SPACEHAWK LANDS IN THE SATURNIAN FOREST...

WELL FOR — CAN I BELIEVE MY EYES ?

SPACEHAWK!

GALAR!

I HAD TO COME BACK HERE AND GET A SUPPLY OF MEAT TO DO ME THRU MY LONG TRIP, SPACEHAWK! THERE'S NO PLACE IN THIS GALAXY WHERE THERE'S SUCH HUNTING AS THERE IS HERE!

RIGHT YOU ARE, GALAR! AND WE'RE DOING OUR HUNTING TOGETHER!

THERE WILL BE ANOTHER OF SPACEHAWK'S STRANGE ADVENTURES IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF TARGET COMICS!

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SPACEHAWK

LONE WOLF OF THE VOID

by BASIL WOLVERTON

ON THE PLANET NEPTUNE, IN THE KINGDOM OF THE NOOMITES, THE AMBITIOUS CAPTAIN OF THE GUARD BROODS OVER AN EVIL SCHEME.....

THE TIME HAS COME TO ASK QUEEN HABA TO MARRY ME! AS KING, I'LL BUILD UP THE ARMY AND SMASH EVERY OTHER NATION ON THIS GLOBE! IF HABA REFUSES— I'LL FIND ANOTHER WAY TO GAIN POWER! **NOTHING** IS GOING TO STOP **ME**, SMEBAR, FROM BECOMING MASTER OF THE PLANET NEPTUNE!

ANIMATED BY THE NEPTUNIAN BREW HE HAS IMBIBED, SMEBAR GOES AT ONCE TO THE QUEEN.

STEP LIVELY, DOG, AND TELL THE QUEEN THAT THE CAPTAIN OF THE GUARD HAS AN URGENT MESSAGE FOR HER!

SPEAK, SMEBAR! WHAT IS YOUR MESSAGE?

YOUR HIGHNESS, I CANNOT SPEAK UNLESS WE ARE ALONE!

NOW WE ARE ALONE! WHAT IS IT?

QUEEN HABA, WITH A NATION THE SIZE OF YOURS, IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE TO CONQUER THIS ENTIRE PLANET— IF YOUR FORCES WERE IN THE PROPER HANDS. MARRY ME, AND AS KING, I CAN QUICKLY WHIP THIS COUNTRY INTO A WAR MACHINE THAT WILL BRING YOU UNTOLD POWER!

THERE IS SOMETHING IN WHAT YOU SAY, SMEBAR! BUT BEFORE I MAKE ANY DECISION, I MUST HAVE TIME TO CONSIDER!

I BEG YOU TO ACCEPT ME, MY QUEEN! I CAN HELP MAKE YOU THE GREATEST RULER OF ALL TIME! TOMORROW I SHALL RETURN FOR YOUR ANSWER!

AHA! THE IDEA APPEALS TO HER! IF SHE IS STILL UNDECIDED TOMORROW, I'LL TALK HER INTO IT!

THE CONCEITED DOLT! WHAT MAKES HIM THINK I SHOULD EVER WANT TO MARRY **HIM**?

SMEBAR WOULD LIKE TO GAIN POWER! THAT I SHAN'T LET HIM DO! IF ONLY I COULD FIND A HANDSOME YOUNG MAN WITH THE ABILITY TO ORGANIZE A WAR MACHINE! TOGETHER WE COULD CONQUER THE PLANET! BUT THERE'S ONLY ONE MAN I COULD LOVE — AND THAT'S SPACEHAWK.

HABA CALLS THE OBSERVATORY MASTER OF NOOM.

CRAD, FROM NOW ON I WANT YOUR MEN TO KEEP A SHARP LOOK-OUT FOR SPACEHAWK'S SHIP. IF IT IS SIGHTED, LET ME KNOW AT ONCE!

YOUR HIGHNESS, SPACEHAWK'S SHIP WAS SIGHTED NOT MORE THAN AN HOUR AGO CIRCLING AROUND THE NEPTUNIAN MOON!

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THIS IS ONE TIME I'M GOING TO MAKE SPACEHAWK COME TO **ME**! I'LL STAGE A HUGE BATTLE, AND IF HE SEES IT, HE'S CERTAIN TO COME A-FLYING!

I WANT TO SPEAK TO THE COMMANDING OFFICER OF THE ARMY!

WITHIN THE HOUR A LARGE PART OF NOOM'S WAR FORCES ARE WAGING A TERRIFIC SHAM BATTLE.....

SPACEHAWK, LURKING NEAR THE NEPTUNIAN MOON TO WATCH FOR SMUGGLER'S SHIPS, TUNES THE SCENE IN ON HIS ELECTROSCOPE.

WHAT'S THIS? LOOKS LIKE A WAR ON NEPTUNE!

SPACEHAWK STREAKS TOWARD NEPTUNE.

—AND LANDS A SHORT DISTANCE FROM THE FIELD OF BATTLE.....

ONLY A BIT OF WAR PRACTICE! APPARENTLY I'VE HAD MY TRIP FOR NOTHING!

HE'S HERE! NOW IT'S UP TO ME NOT TO LET HIM GET AWAY!

AS SPACEHAWK STARTS BACK TOWARD HIS SHIP. HABA'S AIRCAR DROPS FROM THE SKY.....

SPACEHAWK! WHAT A SURPRISE! WON'T YOU COME OVER TO MY CASTLE AND VIEW MY WAR FORCES IN ACTION FROM THERE? I'D LIKE YOUR OPINION OF THE WAR PRACTICE!

THANK YOU, QUEEN HABA, BUT I HAVE MUCH TO DO! JUST DROPPED IN TO SEE WHAT ALL THE EXCITEMENT WAS ABOUT!

HERE'S MY CHANCE TO IMPRESS HABA! MUCH AS I HATE TO HAVE SPACEHAWK AROUND, I'LL DRAG HIM TO THE CASTLE!

LISTEN, YOU! WHEN THE QUEEN ASKS SOMEONE TO DO SOMETHING, SHE'S NOT IN THE HABIT OF BEING REFUSED! COME ALONG!

RELAX, BROTHER. YOU'RE TAKING THE WRONG ATTITUDE!

ARE YOU COMING ALONG, OR DO I HAVE TO GET TOUGH WITH YOU?

SPACEHAWK'S FIST DARTS OUT LIKE LIGHTNING....

MAYBE THIS WILL DECIDE THAT!

SPACEHAWK! YOU'VE KNOCKED OUT THE BEST FIGHTER IN MY KINGDOM! WHAT STRENGTH YOU MUST HAVE!

THERE'S SOMETHING IN THE WIND! I'LL STRING ALONG AND SEE WHAT IT IS!

SORRY, QUEEN HABA! I'LL CARRY HIM TO YOUR AIRCAR!

PERHAPS I SHOULD BE ANGRY WITH YOU FOR WHAT YOU'VE DONE. I'LL OVER-LOOK IT — IF YOU'LL ACCEPT MY INVITATION!

ALL RIGHT! ANYTHING TO KEEP YOUR GOOD WILL!

HABA, I CAN'T UNDERSTAND WHY YOU'RE PREPARING FOR WAR. YOU HAVE NOTHING TO FEAR FROM THE OTHER NATIONS OF THIS PLANET!

LATER— AT HABA'S CASTLE

I'LL TELL YOU, SPACEHAWK! I'D LIKE TO SEE EVERY NATION UNITED WITH NOOM! BUT RULING ALL OF THEM WOULD BE A BIG JOB! I'D LIKE TO MARRY A MAN WHO IS POWERFUL AND INTELLIGENT ENOUGH TO FORCE THE NATIONS INTO A UNION, AND HELP RULE THEM WISELY!

SPACEHAWK, YOU KNOW I'VE ALWAYS LOVED YOU! MY WHOLE KINGDOM IS YOURS IF YOU WILL MARRY ME! TOGETHER, THEN, WE CAN CONQUER AND RULE THIS PLANET!

THAT'S A WONDERFUL COMPLIMENT TO ME, HABA! BUT SUCH A THING IS IMPOSSIBLE! I'LL HAVE NO PART IN OVERPOWERING PEACEFUL NATIONS!

HISTORY SHOULD TEACH YOU THAT WARLIKE, GREEDY RULERS ALWAYS COME TO BAD ENDS! CONSIDER THE MARTIANS—HOW THEY BROUGHT DESTRUCTION ON THEMSELVES WHEN THEY FOUGHT TO OVERCOME THE SATURNIANS! AND WATCH WHAT HAPPENS TO THE NATIONS THAT WISH TO DOMINATE EARTH TODAY.

YOU DON'T NEED TO PREACH TO ME! GET OUT— BEFORE I HAVE YOU THROWN OUT!

I DON'T INTEND TO GO UNTIL YOU'RE CURED OF YOUR INSANE IDEA OF STARTING A WAR!

THEN I **WILL** HAVE YOU THROWN OUT! GUARD! **GUARD!**

FEARING TO FACE SPACEHAWK, THE GUARD RUSHES TO SMEBAR'S QUARTERS..

SMEBAR, THE QUEEN WANTS SPACEHAWK PUT OUT! WHAT SHALL I DO?

GO FETCH HELP, YOU COWARD! I'LL BE THERE PRESENTLY!

SMEBAR AND TWO OF HIS GUARDS SUDDENLY RUSH INTO THE ROOM...

UP WITH YOUR HANDS, AND DON'T TRY ANY TRICKS, SMART GUY!

TAKE HIS GUN, AND CLAMP THE CUFFS ON HIS WRISTS AND ANKLES!

NOW YOU'LL PAY FOR SPURNING ME! THROW HIM INTO THE PIT, SMEBAR!

SO! YOU ASKED HIM TO MARRY YOU, EH? GET THIS— WHEN YOU'RE MARRIED, IT'LL BE TO **ME**! **I'M** THE ONE WHO PUT THE IDEA OF CONQUEST IN YOUR HEAD, AND YOU'RE NOT CARRYING IT OUT WITHOUT ME!

SILENCE! I'LL SETTLE WITH YOU LATER!

COME ON! THIS IS GOING TO BE **A PLEASURE**!

HERE WE ARE! WHAT A SURPRISE YOU'LL GET AFTER YOU HIT THE BOTTOM!

I'M BEGINNING TO SEE THINGS PLAINLY NOW! **YOU'RE** MOSTLY RESPONSIBLE FOR WHAT'S GOING ON AROUND HERE!

ISN'T IT JUST **TOO** BAD YOU CAN'T DO ANYTHING ABOUT IT! **IN YOU GO**!

6

SPACEHAWK THUDS UPON THE FUNGUS-COVERED FLOOR OF THE PIT.....

HAVE A GOOD TIME WITH THAT SPIDEROSAUR DOWN THERE! HE'S ALWAYS HUNGRY FOR HUMAN FLESH!

HE THINKS THIS IS THE END OF ME, AND THAT'S JUST WHAT I WANT HIM TO THINK! IT'LL SET HIM BACK ON HIS HEELS JUST THAT MUCH MORE WHEN I GO AFTER HIM!

AS SPACEHAWK TEARS THE STEEL CUFFS FROM HIS LIMBS, A BULBOUS FIGURE WATCHES FROM THE SHADOWS.....

SILENTLY IT CREEPS ACROSS THE FLOOR. THE SIXTH SENSE, HIGHLY DEVELOPED IN SPACEHAWK'S KEEN MIND, WARNS HIM OF THE DANGER. HE TURNS, AND COOLLY AWAITS THE ATTACK OF THE SPIDEROSAUR.

MEANWHILE— HABA COOLS OFF.

OH — WHAT **HAVE** I DONE? I CAN'T LET SPACEHAWK DIE! **I MUST SAVE HIM!**

AS HABA RACES OUT, SMEBAR CONFRONTS HER.

HA! IF YOU THINK **THAT** MUCH OF HIM, PERHAPS YOU'D LIKE TO **JOIN** HIM! THEN I'LL HAVE THINGS **MY** WAY!

YOU BEAST! I'LL HAVE YOU FLOGGED FOR THREATENING ME LIKE THAT! NOW GET OUT OF MY WAY!

NO ONE IS GOING TO FLOG ME, MY DEAR QUEEN, BECAUSE I'M SOON GOING TO BE RULER OF NOOM! I SHOULD HAVE DONE THIS IN THE FIRST PLACE!

THAT'S THE END OF YOU! THE SPIDEROSAUR IS EATING WELL TODAY!

THE MOMENT HABA FALLS INTO THE PIT, THE SPIDEROSAUR TURNS ITS ATTENTION FROM SPACEHAWK, AND LEAPS TOWARD THE GIRL.

SPACEHAWK DARTS IN BETWEEN THE TWO, AND CLOSES WITH THE POWERFUL CREATURE.

LIFTING IT HIGH, HE HURLS IT TO ITS DEATH AGAINST THE WALL....

I TRIED TO TAKE YOUR LIFE — AND YOU SAVED MINE! I'M NOT WORTHY EVEN TO ASK YOUR FORGIVENESS, SPACEHAWK!

FORGET IT, HABA! I'M SURE YOU DIDN'T REALIZE WHAT YOU WERE DOING!

NOW LET'S GET OUT OF HERE! MY ANTI-GRAVITY BELT WILL EASILY LIFT BOTH OF US!

FIRST THING I'M GOING TO DO IS SETTLE WITH SMEBAR!

OH — BUT YOU MUST BE CAREFUL! HE'LL KILL YOU ON SIGHT!

SMEBAR LOSES NO TIME IN CALLING A MEETING OF THE ROYAL COUNCIL...

OUR QUEEN HAS SUDDENLY LEFT ON A SECRET MISSION! SHE HAS INSTRUCTED ME TO RULE IN HER PLACE!

WHAT IS THIS SECRET MISSION OF WHICH YOU SPEAK? WE KNOW NOTHING OF IT!

THIS IS PREPOSTEROUS! QUEEN HABA WOULD NOT PUT YOU IN HER PLACE, SMEBAR!

THE MAN MUST BE MAD!

ENOUGH TALK! YOU MEN ARE HERE TO SIGN THESE DOCUMENTS MAKING ME ABSOLUTE RULER OF NOOM! I'LL GIVE YOU THREE MINUTES TO GET YOUR SIGNATURES ON THEM, OR I'LL MOW YOU ALL DOWN IN A HEAP!

AND I'LL GIVE YOU JUST THREE SECONDS TO DROP THOSE GUNS, SMEBAR!

SPACEHAWK! HABA! HOW DID YOU —?

COUNCIL MEN OF NOOM, THIS MAN TRIED TO MURDER YOUR QUEEN! WHAT'S TO BE DONE WITH HIM?

CHAIN HIM TO THE FIRE DOOR OF THE ROYAL FURNACE!

YES! THAT WILL GIVE HIM A CHANCE TO THINK THINGS OVER BEFORE THE HEAT GETS HIM!

YOU'LL NEVER DO THAT TO ME!

PARDON ME IF I SEEM TO BE IN YOUR WAY!

SORRY, GENTLEMEN! I'VE CHEATED YOU OUT OF THE CHANCE OF TAKING THIS CRIMINAL'S LIFE! HIS NECK IS BROKEN!

WELL, HABA, ARE YOU STILL INCLINED TO BE A PLANET CONQUERER?

NOT A BIT, SPACEHAWK. FROM NOW I'M GOING TO CONCENTRATE ON BEING A BETTER RULER OVER WHAT I HAVE!

I'M GLAD TO HEAR THAT, HABA! NOW I MUST GO. AND NEXT TIME YOU WANT ME, DON'T GO TO THE EXPENSE OF PUTTING ON A SHAM BATTLE! GOOD BYE, AND GOOD LUCK!

AS SPACEHAWK ROARS AWAY, HE THINKS —

THERE'S A GIRL I COULD LIKE, IF — OH, WELL — I'LL FORGET ABOUT IT AND NOT SEE HER AGAIN!

BUT SPACEHAWK **DOES** SEE HABA AGAIN. WHEN HE OUTWITS THE CRAFTY OLD SCIENTIST OF NOOM IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF.

....TARGET COMICS....

THE POWERFUL, MYSTERIOUS MAN FROM OUTER SPACE —

SPACEHAWK

ON THE PLANET NEPTUNE, IN THE KINGDOM OF NOOM, A SHREWD OLD SCIENTIST NAMED DROON GLOATS AS HE VIEWS THE WAR TORN PLANET EARTH.

AH! THEY ARE STILL AT IT- THE FOOLS, AND NOW — SPACEHAWK IS ONLY A FEW THOUSAND MILES AWAY, I CAN GO AHEAD WITH MY PLAN!

by BASIL WOLVERTON

DROON IMMEDIATELY LEAVES HIS LABORATORY, WHICH IS IN A REMOTE PART OF THE KINGDOM, AND FLIES TO THE ROYAL PALACE....

BEING A FAMOUS SCIENTIST, HE IS QUICKLY GRANTED AN AUDIENCE WITH QUEEN HABA, RULER OF NOOM.

MY DEAR QUEEN, I HAVE WAYS OF KNOWING MANY THINGS, AND I AM AWARE THAT IT WOULD MEAN MUCH TO YOU IF THE GREAT SPACEHAWK WERE TO RETURN THE FEELING YOU HAVE CONCERNING HIM!

WHAT DO YOU MEAN? I WAS UNDER THE IMPRESSION YOU CAME TO DISCUSS AFFAIRS OF STATE — NOT MY PERSONAL AFFAIRS!

YOUR PARDON, BUT YOU SHOULD KNOW THAT SPACEHAWK IS STILL STAYING CLOSE TO NEPTUNE! HE IS LOATH TO LEAVE, BECAUSE HE IS MAD ABOUT YOU!

MAD ABOUT ME? HOW CAN YOU MAKE SUCH A STATEMENT?

I CAN PROVE MY STATEMENT, YOUR HIGHNESS! IT IS WITHIN MY POWER TO BRING SPACEHAWK TO YOU! AND ONCE HE MEETS YOU AGAIN, HE WILL DECLARE HIS LOVE! I CAN PROMISE YOU THAT!

THEN PROVE IT! BUT IF YOU FAIL, AND BRING EMBARRASSMENT TO SPACEHAWK OR TO ME, YOU WILL REGRET IT!

I SHALL PROVE IT, MY QUEEN — FOR A CONSIDERATION! ALL I ASK IS THE BARREN LANDS OF THE OJAH VALLEY, SO THAT I MAY CONDUCT CERTAIN AGRICULTURAL TESTS. DEED IT TO ME, AND I SHALL DISCREETLY ARRANGE MATTERS IN SUCH A WAY THAT SPACEHAWK WILL QUICKLY ARRIVE!

SO YOU'RE DEMANDING A PRICE FOR PLAYING CUPID! WELL — THE REGION IS WORTHLESS. I SHALL DEED IT TO YOU — IF AND WHEN YOU SHOW ME THAT YOU ARE RIGHT IN THIS MATTER!

AFTER DROON GOES—

IF ONLY I CAN RELY ON DROON! THE OJAH VALLEY IS A SMALL PRICE TO PAY IF I COULD LEARN THAT SPACEHAWK CARES FOR ME!

MY PLAN IS WORKING! SOON I SHALL BE IN POSSESSION OF THE OJAH VALLEY!

BACK IN HIS LABORATORY, DROON BEGINS HIS STRANGE TASK BY FORCING HIS SERVANT, JOD, INTO A CAGE.

I NO UNDERSTAND! WHAT FOR I GO IN CAGE?

DONT ASK QUESTIONS! GET IN THERE!

AND NOW, WITH THIS HOT IRON, I'M GOING TO ROUSE YOUR HATRED! IT IS THE THING THAT WILL BRING SPACEHAWK TO ME!

THE ANIMAL-LIKE SERVANT IS AT FIRST BEWILDERED BY HIS MASTER'S CRUEL ACTION. DROON POKES AT HIM WITH THE GLOWING IRON UNTIL JOD IS IN A FRENZY....

WHY YOU DO THIS? I CRUSH YOU DEAD WHEN I GET OUT!

YOU'D LIKE TO KILL ME, WOULDN'T YOU, JOD? **FINE**! THAT'S THE WAY I WANT YOU TO FEEL! NOW I'LL TURN THIS SWITCH, AND THAT APPARATUS OVER YOUR HEAD WILL PICK UP AND BROADCAST YOUR HATRED VIBRATIONS!

JOD'S TELEPATHIC VIBRATIONS, AMPLIFIED MANY TIMES BY DROON'S APPARATUS, ARE FLUNG OUT INTO SPACE—OUT PAST SPACEHAWK'S SHIP, WHICH HOVERS NEAR THE NEPTUNIAN MOON AS SPACEHAWK SEARCHES THE HEAVENS FOR PIRATES OF THE VOID....

SPACEHAWK'S KEEN, RECEPTIVE MIND INSTANTLY ABSORBS THE TELEPATHIC WAVES—

VIBRATIONS OF HATRED ARE COMING FROM NEPTUNE! SOME POWERFULLY EVIL FORCE MUST BE AT WORK THERE!

SPACEHAWK THROWS HIS SPEEDY CRAFT INTO ACTION....

AH! JUST AS I'VE PLANNED! SPACEHAWK'S SHIP IS MOVING THIS WAY! HIS POWERFUL MIND HAS CAUGHT JOD'S MENTAL VIBRATIONS, AND HE'S COMING TO INVESTIGATE!

BEFORE HE ARRIVES, I MUST SHOOT MY MEMORY-KILLER RAY INTO JOD'S BRAIN! IT WILL WIPE THIS LITTLE EPISODE OF TORTURE FROM HIS MIND, SO THAT HE WILL SERVE ME AS FAITHFULLY AS EVER!

BUT BEFORE DROON CAN GET THE RAY PROJECTOR IN OPERATION, SPACEHAWK SUDDENLY STRIDES INTO THE ROOM....

WHAT'S GOING ON HERE? WHY IS THAT MAN IN THE CAGE?

SPACEHAWK! THIS IS INDEED A PLEASANT SURPRISE! YOU HONOR ME BY VISITING MY LABORATORY! AND YOU ARE JUST IN TIME TO WATCH AN INTERESTING OPERATION — SOMETHING ENTIRELY HUMANE AND ABOVE BOARD, I ASSURE YOU!

ON THE CONTRARY, THERE'S SOMETHING QUITE WRONG HERE! LET ME LOOK AT THAT MACHINE!

NOW I MUST STAKE EVERYTHING ON MY HYPNOTIC ABILITY! HIS MIND MAY BE STRONGER THAN MINE IN SOME RESPECTS, BUT NO MIND CAN WITHSTAND THE TERRIFIC POWER OF HYPNOSIS I HAVE DEVELOPED IN MY BRAIN!

SOME SORT OF RAY MACHINE, EH? WHY WERE YOU ABOUT TO USE IT ON YOUR PRISONER?

LOOK AT ME! YOU ARE NOT INTERESTED IN THAT MACHINE! **I AM YOUR MASTER! DO AS I COMMAND!**

NOW STAND WHERE YOU ARE—AND DO NOT MOVE!

AH! THE GREAT SPACEHAWK IS PARALYZED UNDER MY POWERFUL HYP-NOTIC SPELL! BUT I DARE NOT TAKE ANY CHANCES! I SHALL PIERCE HIS BRAIN WITH THE MEMORY-KILLER RAY! THEN I CAN HANDLE HIM AS I WOULD A CHILD — EVEN FROM A GREAT DISTANCE!

THE MACHINE BEGINS TO WHINE, AND A GLOWING BEAM STABS FORTH TO ENVELOP SPACEHAWK'S HEAD....

SUCCESS! WITH ALL MEMORY OF HIS PAST WIPED OUT, I SHALL BE ABLE TO USE SPACEHAWK TO CONQUER THE EARTH. BUT FIRST I MUST GET THE OJAH TERRITORY— AND QUICKLY!

HABA RECEIVES A MESSAGE FROM DROON....

QUEEN HABA, I GAVE SPACEHAWK AN EXCUSE TO RETURN TO NEPTUNE BY CALLING ON HIM FOR CERTAIN ASTRONOMICAL ADVICE! HE HAS ARRIVED, BUT UNFORTUNATELY HE WAS INJURED IN LANDING! I SUGGEST THAT YOU COME HERE AT ONCE!

I SHALL BE THERE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE!

NOW LISTEN CAREFULLY TO ME! YOU WILL HAVE A VISITOR SOON. YOU MUST TELL HER ALL THAT I COMMAND YOU TO TELL HER!

A SHORT WHILE LATER, HABA'S AIRCAR ARRIVES AT DROON'S SECLUDED LABORATORY.....

HOW IS HE? MAY I SEE HIM?

THIS WAY, YOUR HIGHNESS! HIS INJURY IS NOT AS SERIOUS AS I THOUGHT AT FIRST! A TANK OF COMPRESSED AIR EXPLODED AS HE STEPPED INTO THE SHIP'S AIRLOCK CHAMBER. HE HAS REGAINED HIS SENSES, BUT THE CONCUSSION SEEMS TO HAVE LEFT HIS MIND CLOUDED!

QUEEN HABA! IS IT REALLY YOU?

YES, SPACEHAWK! I'VE COME TO SEE IF THERE'S ANYTHING I CAN DO FOR YOU!

PARDON ME. I MUST GO AND PREPARE A STIMULANT FOR HIM!

THE ONLY STIMULANT I NEED IS YOU, HABA!

WHY SPACEHAWK! WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY **THAT**?

FOR A LONG TIME I'VE BEEN WANTING TO TELL YOU WHAT YOU MEAN TO ME, HABA! AND NOW THAT THIS HAS HAPPENED—

SPACEHAWK! ARE YOU TRYING TO TELL ME THAT YOU —

PERHAPS, THOUGH, THIS ISN'T THE TIME TO SAY MUCH ABOUT IT! MY HEAD — IT FEELS A BIT QUEER. THAT WAS QUITE A A BLAST IN MY SHIP, YOU KNOW! IT'S A GOOD THING MY FRIEND DROON BROUGHT ME IN!

PERFECT! EVERY THING IS WORKING OUT TO MY ADVANTAGE!

HERE, SPACEHAWK! DRINK THIS! IT WILL HELP REVIVE YOU!

DROON, WE MUST GET HIM TO A DOCTOR! HE ACTS AND TALKS AS THOUGH HIS MIND WERE IN A FOG!

NO! NO! HE REQUIRES NO DOCTOR! A FEW DAYS REST HERE IS ALL HE NEEDS!

INCIDENTALLY, YOUR HIGHNESS I THINK YOU'LL AGREE THAT I'M NOW ENTITLED TO THAT DEED TO THE OJAH VALLEY! I'VE EARNED IT BY BRINGING YOU AND SPACEHAWK TOGETHER, JUST AS I PROMISED!

WHY ARE YOU IN SUCH A HURRY FOR YOUR REWARD? YOU'LL GET IT JUST AS SOON AS I CAN BE SURE THAT SPACEHAWK IS WELL!

SPACEHAWK'S KEEN EARS CATCH EVERY WORD. SUDDENLY HE LEAPS UP.....

DON'T WORRY, HABA! I'M PERFECTLY WELL! AND NOW THAT I KNOW WHAT YOUR PURPOSE IS, DROON, I'M GOING TO —

WHAT— WHAT'S THIS? STAND BACK THERE! I COMMAND YOU TO STAND BACK!

FOOL! YOUR HYPNOTISM AND YOUR MEMORY-KILLER RAY HAVEN'T HAD THE SLIGHTEST EFFECT ON MY MIND! I'VE BEEN PLAYING ALONG TO DISCOVER YOUR GAME! NOW THAT YOUR MIND IS FULL OF FEAR, I CAN READ IN IT WHY YOU WANT THE OJAH VALLEY! YOU'VE FOUND THAT IT CONTAINS RICH MINERAL DEPOSITS! YOU INTEND TO USE THEM IN YOUR PLAN TO CONQUER THE EARTH NOW THAT THEY ARE EMBROILED IN A WAR AND ARE AT YOUR MERCY. BUT AS LONG AS I LIVE TO DEFEND THE GREAT NATION OF AMERICA, NO ONE IS GOING TO DO THAT!

YOU MISERABLE CHEAT! YOU'LL SPEND THE REST OF YOUR LIFE IN A DUNGEON!

PERHAPS THIS WILL CHANGE YOUR PLANS! UP WITH YOUR HANDS — BOTH OF YOU!

I HATE TO STRIKE AN OLD WEASEL LIKE YOU, BUT IT'S NECESSARY!

SPACEHAWK MOVES SO SWIFTLY THAT DROON HAS NO TIME TO ACT....

OH, SPACEHAWK! I KNOW YOU'LL NEVER FORGIVE ME FOR THIS!

THERE'S NOTHING TO FORGIVE, HABA! I'M GLAD OF THE CHANCE TO UNCOVER DROON'S TREACHERY!

THEY'LL REGRET THIS! IN ANOTHER MINUTE THEY'LL BE MY PRISONERS!

DROON STEALTHILY CRAWLS TOWARD A HIDDEN SWITCH IN THE NEXT ROOM..

THE NEXT INSTANT THE HEAVY DOOR SLAMS SHUT.....

WE'RE TRAPPED!

BANG!

SPACEHAWK HURLS HIS STEELY BODY ACROSS THE ROOM

WE WON'T BE TRAPPED FOR LONG!

HE – HE'S BREAKING THRU THE DOOR!

I'LL GET ANOTHER GUN AND FINISH THEM BEFORE THEY CAN ESCAPE!

STAND BEHIND ME, HABA! THAT DEVIL MAY BE WAITING FOR US WITH ANOTHER ATOM GUN!

MEANWHILE JOD, WHOM DROON HAS NEGLECTED TO TREAT WITH THE MEMORY-KILLER RAY, FINALLY MANAGES TO ESCAPE....

CAGE NO HOLD JOD! I TOO STRONG!

NOW I FIND MASTER DROON. WHEN I FIND, I KILL!

DROON OBTAINS ANOTHER GUN, AND CLIMBS TO A VANTAGE POINT ON THE TOP OF THE BUILDING. FROM THERE HE SEES SPACEHAWK AND HABA HURRYING TO THE LANDING SPACE WHERE THEIR SHIPS ARE....

THIS IS MY CHANCE. THEY'LL NEVER KNOW WHAT HAPPENED!

A DEADLY BOLT OF FLAME SWEEPS DOWN. ONLY SPACEHAWK'S INSTANT ACTION SAVES THEIR LIVES!

HE THINKS HE'S FAST ENOUGH TO DODGE IT, EH? THIS TIME I WON'T MISS!

AS DROON AIMS AGAIN, A GAUNT HAND SEIZES HIS ARM.....

YOU — JOD! HOW DID YOU GET LOOSE? GO AWAY FROM ME!

THIS TIME I NO LOOK INTO YOUR EYES! I KILL YOU FIRST!

DON'T! DON'T! GET BACK FROM THE EDGE, YOU IMBECILE!

HOW YOU LIKE TO FLY THRU AIR — HUH?

AS DROON STAGGERS BACK, HE CLUTCHES JOD, AND BOTH MEN PLUNGE TO THE JAGGED ROCKS HUNDREDS OF FEET BELOW.....

HOW HORRIBLE!

IT WOULD HAVE BEEN EASY TO DODGE THAT ERRATIC FIRING ALL THE WAY TO MY SHIP! THEN I COULD HAVE BLASTED DROON FROM THE SKY! FORTUNATELY, I'VE BEEN SPARED THE JOB!

I MUST GO NOW, HABA. UNCLE SAM NEEDS ME—MORE THAN YOU. BUT I'LL COME BACK TO SEE YOU SOON!

OH, SPACEHAWK! IT'S WONDERFUL TO HEAR YOU SAY THAT! GOODBYE — AND THANK YOU!

A NEW MENACE TO THE PEACE AND SECURITY OF AMERICA IS EXPOSED BY SPACEHAWK IN NEXT MONTH'S TARGET COMICS

DEFENDER

of

AMERICA

SPACEHAWK

WITH HOSTILE, GREEDY NATIONS ATTEMPTING TO SEIZE ALL THE WEALTH OF THE EARTH, SPACE-HAWK CONCENTRATES HIS EFFORTS ON DEFENDING THE ONE GREAT LAND OF REAL FREEDOM — AMERICA. DAY AFTER DAY HE PATROLS THE STRATOSPHERE IN HIS POWERFUL SPACE SHIP, HIS KEEN SENSES ALERT FOR ANY DANGER FROM THE SKIES OR FROM ACROSS THE SEAS.

BASIL WOLVERTON

EVERYTHING SEEMS TO BE OKAY HERE IN THE SKY. NOT AN OBJECT IN SIGHT, EXCEPT THAT APPROACHING ASTEROID. I'D BETTER GIVE IT A WIDE BERTH. IT'S DUE TO PASS THRU THIS SECTION OF THE STRATOSPHERE VERY SOON!

SPACEHAWK SHOOTS TOWARD SPACE AS THE HUGE BOULDER— —PIECE OF AN ANCIENT, EXPLODED PLANET— CURVES IN TOWARD EARTH'S AIR BLANKET, VIRTUALLY SIDESWIPING THE PLANET....

THAT'S AS CLOSE TO THE EARTH AS AN ASTEROID HAS EVER COME. IF THE PEOPLE OF NORTH AMERICA HADN'T BEEN INFORMED ABOUT IT, THERE'D BE A COUNTRY-WIDE PANIC!

SPACEHAWK SWINGS HIS SUPER-POWER ELECTROSCOPE AWAY FROM THE PLANETOID, AND SCANS OTHER PARTS OF THE SKY. SUDDENLY AN UGLY MASS LOOMS IN THE VISION PLATE....

ANOTHER ASTEROID HEADED THIS WAY! THAT'S INCREDIBLE! THERE'S NO RECORD OF ANOTHER ONE IN — HMM! I'M GOING OUT AND HAVE A LOOK AT THAT HUNK OF MATTER!

WHILE SPACEHAWK SPEEDS FORTH TO INVESTIGATE, CRAFTY EYES WATCH HIS SHIP...

WE ARE SAFE, KORU! HE IS HEADING INTO SPACE!

HA! HE IS BUT A FOOL, LIKE THE MILLIONS OF OTHERS DOWN THERE IN AMERICA WHO DO NOT SUSPECT THAT SUDDEN DEATH IS ABOUT TO PLUNGE UPON THEM!

KORU BARKS ORDERS INTO A MICROPHONE

DESCEND INTO THE STRATOSPHERE, AND PREPARE TO STOP DIRECTLY OVER NEW YORK!

WE MUST OPERATE BEFORE THE REAL ASTEROID COMES WITHIN RANGE OF EARTH'S TELESCOPES, HAKI! LITTLE DO THE SMUG AMERICANS REALIZE THAT THEY ARE GAZING UP AT A HOLLOW METAL SHELL PROPELLED BY CONTROLLED MASS ATTRACTION AND LIFTED BY GIANT ANTI-GRAVITY UNITS!

AND FILLED WITH ENOUGH BOMBS TO BLAST THEM ALL TO POWDER!

A SHORT WHILE LATER SPACEHAWK CIRCLES THE DISTANT ASTEROID...

DEEP GULLIES IN IT! IDEAL SPOTS FOR SHIPS TO HIDE — THEN POP OUT AND SWARM OVER AMERICA! I'LL HAVE TO SEARCH EVERY ONE OF THEM!

SPACEHAWK HASTILY INSPECTS THE MAMMOTH SKY BOULDER, BUT FINDS NO SHIPS.

THE FIRST ASTEROID WASN'T VERY RUGGED.....NO CHANCE TO HIDE SHIPS! JUST THE SAME, I'D BETTER HAVE ANOTHER LOOK AT IT THRU THE ELECTROSCOPE!

WHY — IT'S SLOWED UP! IT'S TURNING THE OTHER DIRECTION! THAT MEANS THE EARTH IS PULLING IT IN! IF IT CRASHES, EVERY BUILDING ON THE CONTINENT WILL BE SHAKEN DOWN!

IT'S TOO LATE TO WARN THE PEOPLE, BUT IF THIS TERRIBLE THING HAPPENS, I'D BETTER BE ON HAND TO HELP KEEP ORDER IN SOME OF THE LARGE CITIES!

AS SPACEHAWK RACES TOWARD EARTH, HE KEEPS AN EYE ON THE FORMIDABLE OBJECT....

NOW IT'S STANDING STILL! AND IT'S **NOT** FALLING! WHAT IN THE SUN'S BLAZES IS HOLDING IT?

MEANWHILE— INSIDE THE FAKE ASTEROID

AT YOUR POSTS, MEN! LOAD EVERY TRAP WITH A BOMB! WE'LL SHOW THESE DEMOCRATIC DOLTS WHAT OUR NATION THINKS OF THEIR BEAUTIFUL LAND OF PROSPERITY AND FREEDOM!

BELOW, MILLIONS OF PEOPLE GAZE FEARFULLY UPWARD, WONDER HOW THE GIGANTIC OBJECT CAN HALT IN MID-SKY — — TERRIFIED AT WHAT MAY HAPPEN.....

RELEASE THE FIRST SET OF BOMBS, HAKI!

WITH PLEASURE, KORU! HERE GOES THE STUFF THAT WILL BLAST THEIR GREAT CITY INTO A SMOKING CRATER!

OPENINGS APPEAR IN THE FAKE PLANETOID, AND MIGHTY CYLINDERS OF DEATH PLUNGE SILENTLY INTO THE STRATOSPHERE.

NOW TO MOVE ON TO WASHINGTON AND WIPE THAT FAIR CITY OFF THE MAP! BUT FIRST LET US FEAST OUR EYES ON THE GRAND SPECTACLE BELOW! ANOTHER TWO MINUTES, AND.....

AT THAT INSTANT A LONG SHAPE, MOVING WITH THE SPEED OF A METEOR, DARTS TOWARD THE WAVE OF FALLING BOMBS! A GIANT TONGUE OF FLAME LICKS OUT, EXPLODING EVERY CYLINDER IN MID-SKY! IT IS SPACEHAWK, WHO HAS SPED FORTH JUST IN TIME TO DESTROY THE BOMBS.

KORU! THEY DID NOT REACH THE EARTH!

YOU MEN AT THE TRAPS — LOAD UP WITH MORE BOMBS! WE'LL HAVE TO TRY AGAIN!

WHILE THE ATTACKERS MAKE FURTHER PREPARATIONS, SPACEHAWK ZOOMS UP TOWARD THE FAKE ASTEROID.....

A MOMENT LATER, PROTECTED BY SPACE ARMOR, HE LEAPS FROM HIS SHIP, LEAVING IT IN THE HANDS OF HIS ROBOT PILOT.

WHO EVER IS INSIDE THIS THING HAD ME COMPLETELY FOOLED! I SHOULD HAVE EXAMINED IT MORE CLOSELY!

CLINGING TO THE METAL SURFACE WITH HIS MAGNETIZED BOOTS, SPACEHAWK RUNS TO THE UNDER SIDE OF THE FAKE ASTEROID, AND AT THE RISK OF BEING CRUSHED BY A DESCENDING BOMB, FORCES HIS WAY INTO ONE OF THE CHUTES.

MEANWHILE—

BUT WHY DID THOSE BOMBS EXPLODE? CAN IT BE THAT THERE IS SOME SORT OF INVISIBLE PROTECTION OVER THE CITY?

STOP WASTING TIME WONDERING ABOUT IT! EVERY THING IS READY AGAIN! **RELEASE THE BOMBS!**

AT THAT MOMENT SPACEHAWK CRASHES THRU THE DOOR, HIS GUN SPITTING INSTANT DEATH INTO HAKI'S CHEST....

SPACEHAWK!

BUT AS THE ORIENTAL FALLS, HIS RIGID FINGERS CLUTCH THE SWITCH HANDLE AND YANK IT BACK....

HA! YOUR HEROIC EFFORTS ARE FUTILE! YOU'VE JUST HELPED KILL AT LEAST TEN MILLION OF YOUR BELOVED BELIEVERS IN DEMOCRACY! THE BOMBS ARE ON THEIR WAY!

SPACEHAWK HALTS IN HIS TRACKS. COLD PERSPIRATION BREAKS OUT ON HIS FOREHEAD AS HE STARES SILENTLY AHEAD....

KORU CANNOT KNOW THAT THE INTRUDER'S POTENT MIND IS FLASHING A THOUGHT COMMAND TO HIS ROBOT PILOT. INSTANTLY THE ROBOT DIVES SPACEHAWK'S SHIP AFTER THE FALLING WAVE OF BOMBS, AND OPENS FIRE....

EVEN IN THE RARIFIED AIR OF THE STRATOSPHERE SPACEHAWK AND KORU HEAR THE DETONATION. THE TRIUMPHANT SNEER FADES FROM KORU'S FACE.

THEY - THEY MUST HAVE EXPLODED IN MID-SKY -- -- AGAIN!

RIGHT! AND YOU'RE NOT GOING TO LIVE LONG ENOUGH TO LEARN HOW IT HAPPENED EITHER TIME! LEAD ME TO THE CONTROL ROOM!

THIS IS MY CHANCE! I'LL TAKE HIM SOMEWHERE BUT IT **WON'T** BE TO THE CONTROL ROOM!

YOU RAT! YOU MIGHT JUST AS WELL HAVE SAID THAT OUT LOUD! I SHOULD FINISH WITH YOU RIGHT HERE!

HELP!

SUDDENLY THE ROOM IS FILLED WITH CHARGING MEN, BUT THEIR COMBINED STRENGTH IS AS NOTHING AGAINST SPACEHAWK'S, NOR ARE THEIR WEAPONS EFFECTIVE AGAINST HIS SPACE ARMOR....

SMACK!

6

LEAVING PART OF HIS CREW AND SPACEHAWK TO FIGHT IT OUT, KORU RUNS TO THE CONTROL ROOM AND THRUSTS HIS PILOT ASIDE....

CAPTAIN KORU! YOU'RE TURNING OFF THE ANTI-GRAVITY POWER! WE'LL FALL TO EARTH!

THAT'S WHAT I WANT! SPACEHAWK IS ABOARD! I'LL SMASH HIM AND NEW YORK AT THE SAME TIME!

BUT WE'LL ALL BE KILLED IF—

SILENCE, MORON! IF YOU'D BEEN MORE ALERT AT THE TELESCOPES, THIS WOULDN'T HAVE HAPPENED! **THIS** IS WHAT YOU DESERVE!

NOW TO GET INTO MY SPACE CAR, SHOOT OUT THRU THE TAKE-OFF TUBE, AND GET AWAY FROM HERE BEFORE IT CRASHES!

BUT AS KORU DASHES INTO THE CORRIDOR—

PLANNING ON LEAVING SO SOON?

YOU AGAIN!

LET ME GO! THE ANTI-GRAVITY POWER IS OFF! WE'RE FALLING TOWARD EARTH!

SURE I'LL LET YOU GO— BUT FIRST—HERE'S A LITTLE TOKEN OF MY AFFECTION FOR YOUR CREW, THE GOVERNMENT THAT SENT THIS CRAFT,— AND **YOU**!

CRACK

SPACEHAWK QUICKLY FINDS THE CONTROL ROOM....

WE'RE DROPPING FAST, BUT I'LL SOON FIX THAT!

BELOW, IN NEW YORK

LOOK! IT'S HEADING INTO SPACE! WE'RE SAFE!

TAN

NOW THAT I HAVE THIS THING OUT OF THE LOWER STRATO-SPHERE, I MUST LOCATE THE **REAL** ASTEROID! YES!—THERE IT IS COMING THIS WAY, AND JUST IN THE RIGHT POSITION FOR WHAT I WANT!

A FEW MINUTES LATER, ASTRONOMERS FLASH THE NEWS AROUND THE WORLD THAT ANOTHER PLANETOID HAS APPEARED, AND THAT THE TWO OF THEM MAY COLLIDE NOT FAR FROM EARTH....

SPACEHAWK EMERGES FROM THE FAKE ASTEROID, AND MENTALLY SUMMONS HIS SHIP. FROM WITHIN IT, HE WATCHES THE REAL ASTEROID CRASH INTO THE MAN-MADE OBJECT HE HAS STEERED INTO ITS PATH.....

ALL THAT IS LEFT OF THE TWO GIGANTIC OBJECTS DROPS HARMLESSLY INTO THE PACIFIC

I SUPPOSE I SHOULD LET AMERICA KNOW WHAT REALLY HAPPENED UP HERE AND WHAT ALMOST HAPPENED DOWN THERE — BUT WHY WORRY THE PEOPLE ABOUT IT? THEY'RE STILL SAFE, NOTHING ELSE MATTERS!

IN NEXT MONTH'S
TARGET COMICS
SPACEHAWK
CLASHES WITH THE ENEMY FORCES AT THE BOTTOM OF THE SEA.

SPACEHAWK

DEFENDER OF AMERICA

AS SPACEHAWK CRUISES THRU THE STRATOSPHERE ABOVE THE CARIBBEAN SEA, CAREFULLY SCANNING EVERY SHIP BY MEANS OF HIS FAR-SEEING ELECTROSCOPE, HE IS SHOCKED TO SEE A LONE AMERICAN FREIGHTER RENT APART BY AN EXPLOSION....

BASIL WOLVERTON

SPACEHAWK SWOOPS SEAWARD — HOPING TO RESCUE SOME OF THE CREW —

TOO LATE! NOTHING BUT DEBRIS LEFT ON THE SURFACE!

CAN IT BE POSSIBLE THAT MINES HAVE BEEN PLANTED IN THESE WATERS?

THE PRESENCE OF MINES HERE WOULD BE AN EXTREMELY SERIOUS MATTER! THE PACIFIC FLEET HAS JUST PASSED THRU THE PANAMA CANAL, AND IS HEADED THIS WAY! I'D BETTER GO OVER EVERY FOOT OF THE SURFACE IN THIS AREA!

SPACEHAWK'S ELECTROSCOPE SOON SHOWS A PECULIAR OBJECT FLOATING A FEW MILES FROM THE EXPLODED SHIP.

AS HE APPROACHES, IT BOBS UNDER THE SURFACE ——

VERY STRANGE! WHATEVER THAT THING IS, IT WENT UNDER BECAUSE I WAS APPROACHING IT! IF I LEAVE, PERHAPS—

SPACEHAWK SHOOTS UP OUT OF SIGHT IN THE STRATOSPHERE.

A CERTAIN INDIVIDUAL IS RELIEVED TO SEE HIM GO

A WINGLESS AIRPLANE PROPELLED BY ROCKETS! SURELY THE AMERICANS DO NOT HAVE SUCH A CRAFT! BUT IT IS GONE NOW! NOTHING CAN STOP OUR SINKING EVERY SHIP THAT COMES WITHIN MILES OF HERE! SEND THE EYE BACK TO THE SURFACE!

YES, CAPTAIN!

AHA! NOW IT'S ON THE SURFACE AGAIN! I'M GOING BACK DOWN THERE, AND THIS TIME I'LL FIND OUT WHAT IT IS!

MANY MILES TO THE SOUTH, SPACEHAWK'S SHIP DIVES BENEATH THE WAVES, AND STREAKS NORTHWARD....

A FEW MINUTES LATER, SPACE-HAWK SPOTS A DARK LINE RUNNING UP THRU THE WATER....

SO **THAT'S** IT! THE THING ON TOP IS SOME SORT OF SEEING DEVICE ATTACHED TO A CABLE! BUT WHERE DOES THE CABLE LEAD?

SPACEHAWK DRIFTS DOWNWARD, MOMENTARILY EXPECTING TO MEET A SUBMARINE. FINALLY, AS HE NEARS THE BOTTOM, A MONSTROUS METAL THING LUMBERS SLOWLY OUT OF THE WATERY SHADOWS!

A GIANT UNDERSEA TANK! IT'S ALMOST UNBELIEVABLE! WHY— SUCH A MACHINE COULD SINK THE WHOLE PACIFIC FLEET!

IT'S HEADED TOWARD THE CANAL! IF THE MEN INSIDE IT AREN'T AWARE THAT A WHOLE FLEET OF BATTLESHIPS IS HEADED THIS WAY, THEY'LL SOON DISCOVER IT! I MUST CUT THAT CABLE LEADING TO THE MECHANICAL EYE!

I DON'T DARE GET CLOSE ENOUGH TO LET THEM SEE MY SHIP! I'LL HAVE TO GO OUT THERE IN A SPACE SUIT!

MEANWHILE, THE MECHANICAL EYE AT THE SURFACE BRINGS A WELCOME SIGHT TO THE OFFICERS OF THE UNDERSEA TANK.

A FLEET OF AMERICAN WARSHIPS IS COMING! THIS IS OUR GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY — OUR CHANCE TO SERIOUSLY CRIPPLE THE UNITED STATES FORCES IN ONE POWERFUL BLOW! OUR COUNTRY WILL PRAISE US FOR THIS DAY'S WORK!

THIS IS WHAT WE HAVE HOPED FOR, CAPTAIN! IT WILL BE WELL WORTH THE LONG TRIP FROM EUROPE ACROSS THE ROUGH BED OF THE OCEAN!

ATTENTION, TORPEDO STATIONS! LOAD YOUR TUBES, AND STAND BY FOR FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS!

BACK IN THE WORK-SHOP OF HIS SHIP, SPACEHAWK, WITH THE AID OF HIS ROBOTS, SPEEDILY CONSTRUCTS AN INGENIOUS METAL DISGUISE.....

PROTECTED BY SPACE ARMOR, SPACEHAWK GETS INTO THE FISH-LIKE FIGURE ——

—AND LAUNCHES HIMSELF INTO THE SEA THRU THE AIR-LOCK CHAMBER.

PROPELLING HIMSELF BY MOVEMENTS OF HIS "FINS," AND LIFTED BY THE ANTI-GRAVITY ELEMENTS IN HIS ATTIRE, SPACEHAWK BOLDLY MAKES HIS WAY TOWARD THE TANK....

SLOWLY HE SWIMS UP TO THE EYE LINE, AND SEVERS IT WITH A BLAST FROM HIS HIGH PRESSURE ELECTRON TORCH.....

THE SCREEN IS BLANK! FISH MUST HAVE TANGLED WITH THE LINE AGAIN! BEFORE YOU SEND UP ANOTHER EYE, I'LL GIVE THOSE FINNY DEVILS A GOOD DOSE OF CONCUSSION!

A TORPEDO STREAKS UP FROM ONE OF THE TUBES

HALF WAY TO THE SURFACE IT EXPLODES WITH A CRUSHING FORCE THAT TEARS SPACEHAWK'S DISGUISE FROM HIM.....

HE DROPS DOWN PAST THE TANK, AND LANDS ON ONE OF THE HUGE GUARDS OVER THE CRAWLER WHEELS.

THAT WAS A CLOSE CALL! BUT IF I CAN CUT THRU THIS THICK PLATE WITH THIS TORCH, PERHAPS I CAN STILL GIVE THEM PLENTY OF TROUBLE!

MINUTES DRAG BY. THEN, INSIDE THE TANK, AN ALARM LIGHT BLINKS OUT A WARNING....

OPERATOR SIX REPORTING! WATER IS COMING THRU THE OUTER HULL!

THE COMMANDER BARKS AN ORDER TO REPAIRMEN—

THERE'S A LEAK SOMEWHERE IN THE OUTER HULL! GO OUT AND FIX IT! YOU'LL HAVE TO HURRY! WE'LL BE FIRING TORPEDOES VERY SHORTLY!

SHORTLY AFTERWARD SPACEHAWK IS SURPRISED TO SEE A METAL-CLAD FIGURE ABOVE HIM...

SOMEONE'S COME TO LOOK FOR TROUBLE! THIS IS A BREAK!

HE LEAPS UP AND HURLS THE REPAIRMAN OFF THE TANK....

THERE SHOULD BE A WATER-LOCK ENTRANCE AROUND HERE! AH! HERE IT IS! I'LL HAVE TO TAKE A CHANCE ON THEIR LETTING ME IN!

SPACEHAWK RAPS ON THE INNER WALL. THINKING THAT THE REPAIRMAN HAS RETURNED, THE WATER-LOCK OPERATOR CLOSES THE OUTER DOOR, DRAINS THE LOCK, AND OPENS THE INNER DOOR. TERROR GRIPS HIM AS THE STRANGE FIGURE LEAPS OUT....

YOU — YOU AREN'T — !

NO, I'M NOT, AND LET'S LET IT GO AT THAT!

GUIDED BY HIS KEEN SENSES, SPACEHAWK QUICKLY SEEKS OUT THE COMMANDER'S POST....

KINDLY STEP ASIDE, CAPTAIN! I'D LIKE TO TAKE A LOOK THRU THAT GADGET!

HUH? WHAT'S THIS?

WHO - WHO ARE YOU? MEN! WHERE DID THIS FELLOW COME FROM? GET HIM OUT OF HERE!

HMM! THE FLEET IS NEARLY OVERHEAD! I'VE ARRIVED JUST IN TIME!

BEAT IT! THE CAPTAIN AND I NEED PRIVACY!

THIS WILL FIX YOU!

DON'T BE SILLY! THIS QUARTZ HELMET IS REALLY TOUGH!

BANG

BANG

BANG

NOW THAT FORMALITIES ARE OVER, GO AHEAD WITH YOUR WORK! GIVE THE ORDER TO BLAST THOSE SHIPS ABOVE US!

WHAT? I THOUGHT YOU WERE TRYING TO PREVENT MY DOING IT! WHY — OF COURSE! THERE'S NO TIME TO LOSE!

ATTENTION, TORPEDO STATIONS! CHECK YOUR RANGES, AND MAKE IT SNAPPY!

WE ARE READY, SIR!

THEN FIRE!

WHAT'S THE MATTER, YOU FOOLS? CAN'T YOU UNDERSTAND? I SAID FIRE!

OH! — SO SORRY, CAPTAIN! I SEEM TO HAVE BROKEN YOUR MICROPHONE CORD! TOO BAD YOUR MEN CAN'T HEAR YOU!

WHAT? WHY — I'LL KILL YOU FOR THIS!

BETTER NOT TOSS THAT HAND GRENADE! THE SPACE BETWEEN THE INNER AND OUTER HULLS IS FULL OF WATER! ALL THE PRESSURE OF THE SEA IS AGAINST THAT WALL!

THIS IS NOT FOR THE WALL! IT'S FOR YOU!

SPACEHAWK LEAPS ASIDE WITH LIGHTNING SWIFTNESS, AND THE GRENADE EXPLODES AGAINST THE WALL!

BANG!

WEAKENED, THE STEEL PLATES CRACK OPEN, AND WATER GUSHES IN WITH THE FORCE OF A PILE DRIVER!

UH!

THE TORRENT ROARS INTO ALL COMPARTMENTS, INSTANTLY CRUSHING THE CREW....

SPACEHAWK WAITS UNTIL THE TANK IS COMPLETELY FLOODED — THEN MAKES HIS WAY OUT THRU THE WATER-LOCK....

A GREAT PIECE OF MACHINERY, THIS TANK, BUT THIS IS THE END OF THE LINE FOR IT!

AS HIS SHIP EMERGES FROM THE SEA, SPACEHAWK SEES THE PACIFIC FLEET CONTINUING EASTWARD...

WONDER WHAT THE MEN ON THOSE SHIPS WOULD THINK IF THEY COULD KNOW WHAT ALMOST HAPPENED TO THEM?

Next Month

SPACEHAWK GETS HIS HANDS ON A FOREIGN DICTATOR..... AND THINGS HAPPEN!

IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF TARGET COMICS

SPACEHAWK

A POWERFUL ROCKET SHIP MOVES SWIFTLY ABOVE THE CLOUD MASSES OVER DARKENED EUROPE. IT IS THE SPACE CRAFT OF THE MYSTERIOUS **SPACEHAWK**, WHOSE POTENT, SENSITIVE BRAIN SEEKS TO ABSORB TELEPATHIC VIBRATIONS UNWITTINGLY LOOSED BY THE EVIL MINDS OF THOSE WHO PLOT TO SPREAD WAR AND DESTRUCTION THROUGHOUT THE EARTH...

by BASIL WOLVERTON

VIBRATIONS OF EVIL ARE EMANATING FROM MOOSLER'S CAPITAL! I'D BETTER INVESTIGATE!

AIDED BY HIS ANTI-GRAVITY BELT, **SPACEHAWK** LEAPS FROM HIS SHIP AND DROPS TOWARD THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE MIGHTY **MOOSLER**, INTERNATIONAL ENEMY NO. 1.

INSIDE MOOSLER'S ABODE—

NO NATION OF FAT, STUPID CAPITALISTS CAN FRIGHTEN **ME**, MOOSLER! HOWEVER, AS A MERE MATTER OF PRECAUTION, WE MUST PREVENT THE UNITED STATES FROM SENDING AID TO OUR ENEMIES! WE MUST SEND SUBMARINES TO AMERICA, AND TORPEDO EVERY BOAT THAT LEAVES ITS SHORES!

HAIL, MOOSLER!
HAIL, MOOSLER!!
HAIL, MOOSLER!!!

GENERAL BLOOTZ, YOUR SALUTE LACKED ENTHUSIASM! IS IT POSSIBLE THAT YOU ARE NOT IN FAVOR OF MY PLAN?

I FEEL, SIR, THAT IT WOULD BE UNWISE TO MOVE AGAINST THE UNITED STATES! THE FINAL RESULT WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY BE DISASTER FOR US!

I AM MAKING THE DECISIONS! I SAY WE WILL SEND THOSE SUBMARINES!

GUARD, WHEN GENERAL BLOOTZ STARTS TO LEAVE, ESCORT HIM TO THE EXECUTION CHAMBER!

THE MEETING IS OVER, GENTLEMEN! YOU HAVE YOUR ORDERS! THOSE SUBMARINES MUST BE IN ACTION WITHIN A WEEK! AND I MEAN ACTION!

SO THAT'S IT! THE UNITED STATES NAVY WOULD HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY ABOUT THAT!

PERHAPS I CAN SAVE THE NAVY SOME TROUBLE BY TALKING THIS OVER WITH THE OLD BOY!

I MUST GET PAST THAT GUARD TO MOOSLER'S BEDROOM!

SPACEHAWK CREEPS UP ON THE GUARD, AND—

SO FAR, SO GOOD! AH! HERE ARE THE KEYS!

NOW FOR A JOLLY LITTLE TETE-A-TETE WITH MOOSLER!

WHO'S THERE?

SURPRISE!

WHAT IS THIS? I'LL HAVE YOU—

DON'T GET YOUR BLOOD PRESSURE UP! SIT DOWN AND TAKE IT EASY WHILE WE HAVE A TALK!

A TALK? WHY, YOU HAIR-BRAINED IDIOT! YOU'VE ALREADY SAID YOUR LAST WORDS! TAKE THIS!

DROP IT!

—AND GET AWAY FROM THAT ALARM BUTTON!

HOW'D YOU GET IN HERE? WHO ARE YOU? WHAT DO YOU WANT?

I WANT YOU TO COUNTER-MAND THAT ORDER TO SEND SUBMARINES TO AMERICA!

YOU DIRTY FOREIGN SPY! I'LL HAVE YOU RIDDLED WITH BULLETS UNTIL THERE'S NOTHING LEFT OF YOU!

YOU'RE NOT DEALING WITH ONE OF YOUR GENERALS NOW, MOOSLER! YOU KILL THAT ORDER — OR ELSE!

OR ELSE WHAT?

OR ELSE I'LL TOSS YOU INTO THE MIDDLE OF ONE OF YOUR OWN BATTLEFIELDS!

WHAT?!

GUARD! GUARD!

IT'S HIS EXCELLENCY CALLING! COME ON!

I THOUGHT I HEARD A COMMOTION UP THERE!

NOW—BEFORE MY GUARDS GET YOU, I'M GOING TO ENJOY ONE GOOD —

FOR A MILITARY MAN, YOU'RE A POOR FIGHTER!

CLOP!

OUT LIKE A LIGHT! THAT'LL MAKE IT EASIER FOR ME TO GET HIM OUT THE WINDOW AND UP INTO MY SHIP!

THE GUARD — BOUND AND GAGGED! THIS IS TERRIBLE! SOUND THE GENERAL ALARM!

BY THE TIME ANXIOUS GUARDS AND OFFICERS CAN GET INTO HIS ROOM, THE DICTATOR IS BEING WHISKED TOWARD SPACEHAWK'S ROBOT-CONTROLLED SHIP...

WHAT HAPPENED.. WHERE AM I?

YOU'RE THREE MILES UP IN THE CLOUDS! BUT DON'T WORRY! YOU MAY SOON HAVE YOUR FEET ON THE GROUND! GET INTO THIS PARACHUTE!

DIRECTLY BELOW US, HUNDREDS OF YOUR TANKS ARE ATTACKING A SMALL NATION! I'M GOING TO DROP YOU IN FRONT OF YOUR OWN DEATH-DEALING DEVICES, AND GIVE YOU A DOSE OF YOUR OWN MEDICINE!

WHAT! YOU DARE DO THIS TO ME, MOOSLER, IN NOTHING BUT MY PAJAMAS?

RIGHT — UNLESS YOU GIVE THE ORDER THAT NO SUB-MARINES ARE TO GO INTO THE AMERICAN NEUTRALITY ZONE, OR ATTACK AMERICAN SHIPS!

BUT I CAN'T RETRACT MY ORDERS NOW! I'D LOSE FACE WITH MY STAFF, MY ARMY, MY PEOPLE! BETTER THAT MY WHOLE NATION SHOULD PERISH THAN THAT I SHOULD BE DISGRACED!

I WON'T ARGUE WITH YOU! COME ON! GET OUT!

SPACEHAWK PITCHES MOOSLER INTO THE SKY.....

HE LANDS IN A SHELL-TORN FIELD IN THE PATH OF HIS APPROACHING WAR MACHINES...

WHOEVER YOU ARE, YOU'LL DIE FOR THIS! —AND MILLIONS MORE WITH YOU!

A SHELL WHINES OVER MOOSLER'S HEAD, AND EXPLODES A FEW YARDS AWAY..

BOOM!

WHY SHOULD I FEAR THE TERRORS OF WAR? I, MOOSLER, AM A MAN OF DESTINY! NOTHING CAN MOVE ME FROM MY PURPOSE!

MOOSLER'S OWN TANKS SUDDENLY ROAR OVER THE BROW OF THE HILL, BLASTING AND SEARING EVERYTHING BEFORE THEM. PANIC SEIZES THE DICTATOR.....

I- I CAN'T RUN FAST ENOUGH! THEY'LL GET ME! HELP! HELP!!

ENEMY TANKS COMING FROM THE OTHER DIRECTION! I'M TRAPPED!

BOOM!

CRASH!

BOOM!

THEY'RE COMING CLOSER! CLOSER! CLOSER! I'LL BE KILLED!

AS MOOSLER, PALSIED WITH FEAR, ATTEMPTS TO DIG HIS WAY TO SAFETY, A FIGURE PLUMMETS FROM THE SKY....

—AND SNATCHES UP THE COWERING DICTATOR....

SPACEHAWK CARRIES HIM TO HIS SHIP.....

WELL, MOOSLER, HAVE YOU HAD ENOUGH, OR SHALL I —

NO! NO! I'LL DO ANYTHING YOU ASK IF YOU'LL ONLY SPARE ME!

GOOD! THEN I EXPECT YOU TO CALL OFF YOUR SUBMARINES!

I'LL DO IT! I'LL DO IT!

HERE WE ARE OVER YOUR CAPITAL. I'LL TAKE YOU TO YOUR HOME! AND REMEMBER — IF YOU DON'T KEEP YOUR PROMISE, I'LL BE BACK AFTER YOU!

THE TWO DROP FROM SPACEHAWK'S SHIP....

TO EVERY ONE'S SURPRISE, THE DICTATOR SUDDENLY POPS IN THRU THE WINDOW....

IT'S HIS EXCELLENCY!

HAIL, MOOSLER!

HE MUST HAVE BEEN WALKING IN HIS SLEEP!

STOP SHRIEKING, YOU IDIOTS, AND HELP ME INTO BED BEFORE I FREEZE TO DEATH!

YOU! — CAPTAIN VON HAMBLATT! I WANT YOU TO SEE TO IT AT ONCE THAT NO SUBMARINES GO TO AMERICA OR ATTACK AMERICAN SHIPS!

BUT SIR, YOU'VE ALREADY GIVEN THE ORDERS TO —

I KNOW IT! I KNOW IT! I'M CALLING IT ALL OFF! DO AS I SAY, OR FACE A FIRING SQUAD!

SATISFIED WITH WHAT HE HAS HEARD, SPACEHAWK SHOOTS BACK TO HIS SHIP....

I REALIZE THAT I CAN'T RELY ON A DICTATOR'S PROMISE, BUT I FEEL THAT I'VE STALLED THE OLD BOY OFF FOR A LITTLE WHILE AT LEAST!

NEXT MONTH

SPACEHAWK SETS OUT TO DESTROY A FLOATING SUBMARINE BASE!

in

TARGET COMICS

SPACEHAWK

HIGH IN THE STRATOSPHERE, HIDDEN FROM THE EYES OF THE EARTH PEOPLE, THE MYSTERIOUS MAN FROM SPACE CONTINUES HIS LONE VIGIL, READY TO THROW HIS POWERS INTO THE DEFENSE OF AMERICA.

THIS SENSITIVE DEVICE TO PICK UP TELEPHONE MESSAGES FROM A DISTANCE IS COMING IN HANDY! I'M LEARNING MANY SECRETS! AH! HERE'S AN INTERESTING CONVERSATION IN EUROPE!

by BASIL WOLVERTON

CAPTAIN WOOLF, LEAVE PORT AT ONCE WITH YOUR SUBMARINE CARRIER, PROCEED AT FULL SPEED TO SECTION 68, AND SINK THE AMERICAN SHIP HEADING EASTWARD WITH SUPPLIES FOR THE ENEMY! **DO NOT FAIL!**

OUR NEW TYPE OF SMALL SUBMARINES CAN NOT FAIL, COMMANDER! THAT AMERICAN SHIP WILL BE AT THE BOTTOM OF THE ATLANTIC WITHIN TWELVE HOURS!

I DON'T KNOW WHAT AREA OF THE SEA THE COMMANDER MEANS BY SECTION 68, BUT I'M GOING TO FIND THAT SUBMARINE CARRIER BEFORE IT GETS THERE!

SAILORS THRUOUT THE ATLANTIC ARE STARTLED TO SEE A STREAK OF FIRE ACROSS THE NIGHT SKY.....

A GIANT METEOR!

IT MUST BE CLOSE! LISTEN TO THAT ROAR!

BUT THE "METEOR" IS SPACEHAWK'S SWIFT ROCKET SHIP ZIPPING BACK AND FORTH ABOVE THE ATLANTIC....

WHILE INSIDE, AT HIS POWERFUL ELECTROSCOPE, SPACEHAWK SCANS THE DARK SEA FOR THE SUBMARINE CARRIER...

SUCCESS! THAT ODD-SHAPED CRAFT DOWN THERE MUST BE IT!

NOW, WITH MY TELEPATHY-CONTROLLED ROBOT TO GUIDE MY SHIP, I'LL PAY THAT SUB CARRIER A VISIT!

SPACEHAWK DROPS FROM THE SKY-- —STRAIGHT FOR THE WAR CRAFT....

WE'VE MADE GOOD TIME! WE'RE ENTERING SECTION 68 NOW!

MEANWHILE, THE CAPTAIN IS ALONE IN HIS QUARTERS.

CAPTAIN WOOLF, I BELIEVE!

WHO ARE YOU? WHERE'D YOU COME FROM?

I'M HERE TO WARN YOU NOT TO ATTACK ANY AMERICAN SHIPS! IF YOU DO, YOU'LL REGRET IT!

OHO! A FOREIGN STOWAWAY, EH? I'LL TAKE CARE OF YOU!

TAKE IT EASY, BROTHER!

YOUR TIMING SEEMS TO BE SLIGHTLY OFF!

SPACEHAWK DEFTLY SIDE-STEPS THE CAPTAIN'S FIST....

WHY YOU — I'LL TEAR YOU APART!

SPACEHAWK AGAIN DODGES WITH LIGHTNING SPEED....

BUT HIS SUDDEN MOVEMENT CAUSES HIM TO SLIP AND STRIKE HIS HEAD.

AHA! THE STUPID OAF GOT THE WORST OF IT AFTER ALL! I'LL HAVE HIM PUT IN CHAINS UNTIL I SINK THAT AMERICAN SHIP! THEN I'LL TEACH HIM WHAT IT MEANS TO SNEAK ABOARD **MY** SHIP!

A FEW MINUTES LATER, WITH THE APPROACH OF DAWN, A SCOUTING SHIP TAKES OFF FROM THE CARRIER

—AND SOON LOCATES THE AMERICAN SHIP....

OUR PILOT REPORTS THAT OUR PREY IS SEVENTY MILES DUE WEST! MAN TWO SUBMARINES AND LAUNCH THEM FOR THE JOB!

HUGE DOORS OPEN IN THE SIDE OF THE CARRIER, AND TWO SMALL SUBMARINES SLIP INTO THE SEA

IN HIS CELL, SPACE-HAWK RECOVERS FROM THE EFFECTS OF HIS ACCIDENT....

THE CAPTAIN MIGHT BE SURPRISED TO KNOW THAT THESE CHAINS DON'T MEAN A THING!

—AND NEITHER DOES THIS STEEL WALL!

CRASH!

SPACEHAWK SLIPS DOWN A CORRIDOR, AND FINDS.....

SO THOSE ARE THE NEW, SINGLE-TORPEDO SUBMARINES! HMM! TWO LAUNCHING RACKS EMPTY! APPARENTLY TWO SUBMARINES HAVE ALREADY BEEN SENT OUT! I'LL HAVE TO WORK FAST!

TWO MEN SPY SPACEHAWK.

HEY!! WHO ARE YOU?

YOU SAILORS SHOULD KNOW THAT IT'S POOR POLICY TO BLOCK A SHIP'S CORRIDOR!

SPACEHAWK RUSHES UP ON DECK—

—AND APPLYING THE ANTI-GRAVITY POWER IN HIS BELT, SHOOTS INTO THE SKY AMID A SHOWER OF BULLETS....

THE MEN ON THE CARRIER'S DECK CAN NOT BELIEVE THEIR EYES...

HE **JUMPED** INTO THE SKY!

I SAW IT, BUT I JUST **CAN'T** BELIEVE IT!

BY MEANS OF POWERFUL THOUGHT COMMANDS, SPACE-HAWK BRINGS HIS CRAFT TO HIM, AND SOON IS HEADED TOWARD THE AMERICAN SHIP....

BUT THE SUBMARINES ARE ALREADY WITHIN FIRING RANGE OF THE FREIGHTER, AND ONE OF THEM RELEASES ITS TORPEDO

A LOOK-OUT ON THE FREIGHTER SPOTS THE APPROACHING DEATH.

TORPEDO!

THEN SPACEHAWK SUDDENLY SWOOPS FROM THE HEAVENS! HIS BLAST CANNON ROARS, SHATTERING THE TORPEDO BEFORE IT CAN REACH THE SHIP....

NOW TO GET TO THAT OTHER SUB BEFORE ITS CREW CAN LAUNCH THEIR TORPEDO!

SPACEHAWK LETS OUT A STRONG GRAB-MAGNET, AND WITH IT YANKS THE CRAFT FROM THE WATER!

THE TERRIFIC JERK CRUSHES THE CREW AGAINST THE WALLS.

BUT SPACEHAWK QUICKLY PUTS THEM OUT OF THEIR MISERY BY CUTTING THE MAGNET POWER, AND CATAPULTING THE SUBMARINE INTO SPACE...

THE CRAFT COMES TO AN ABRUPT END WHEN IT COLLIDES WITH A METEOR.

SPACEHAWK DIVES BACK TO SEA AND DROPS THE GRAB MAGNET ON THE OTHER SUBMARINE — NOW HARMLESS BECAUSE ITS ONLY TORPEDO IS GONE....

THE AMERICAN SAILORS ABOARD THE FREIGHTER WATCH IN AMAZEMENT.....

A WINGLESS AIRPLANE! WHAT KEEPS IT UP?

LOOK! IT'S JERKING ANOTHER SUB OUT OF THE WATER!

IT'S SAVED OUR LIVES — AND THIS CARGO OF RED CROSS SUPPLIES!

WITH THE SECOND VICTIM TRAILING BEHIND, SPACEHAWK'S SHIP ROARS TOWARD THE SUBMARINE CARRIER...

I'M SURE THAT CAPTAIN WOOLF WOULD LIKE TO HAVE AT LEAST ONE OF HIS SUBS BACK! HERE'S WHERE HE GETS IT — RIGHT IN THE NECK!

SPACEHAWK TAKES CAREFUL AIM, AND RELEASES THE CRAFT...

DOWN ON THE CARRIER—

CAPTAIN WOOLF, LOOK!

GOOD HEAVENS! IT'S COMING STRAIGHT FOR US!

THE SUBMARINE PLOWS THRU THE CARRIER.....

BOOM!

THE IMPACT EXPLODES THE TORPEDOES WITHIN THE SHIP—

—AND WITHIN A FEW MINUTES IT'S HEADED FOR THE BOTTOM...

8

WELL, IF THOSE RED CROSS SUPPLIES DON'T GET THRU, IT WON'T BE BECAUSE I DIDN'T CLEAR THE WAY!

HOW CAN SPACEHAWK WIN OUT AGAINST A WHOLE FLEET OF ENEMY BOMBERS . . . . . HE WILL DEFEND U.S. INDUSTRY IN AUGUST'S TARGET COMICS

CONCEALED IN THE STRATOSPHERE, THE MYSTERIOUS DEFENDER OF AMERICA SCANS THE EAST COAST OF THE CONTINENT.....

AN UNMARKED SHIP IS FLYING TOWARD LABRADOR FROM THE DIRECTION OF GREENLAND! I'LL HAVE TO LOOK INTO THAT!

SPACEHAWK

SPACEHAWK'S SWIFT ROCKET SHIP SWOOPS EARTHWARD, AND ROARS OVER THE SNOWY WILDERNESS....

by BASIL WOLVERTON

THAT'S STRANGE! THAT PLANE DISAPPEARED RIGHT HERE! PERHAPS IT PLUNGED INTO A DEEP SNOWDRIFT! I'M GOING TO FIND OUT BEFORE I DEPART

LEAVING HIS SHIP IN THE HANDS OF HIS MIND-CONTROLLED ROBOT, SPACEHAWK LEAPS OUT...

THERE'S A CABIN! POSSIBLY I CAN GET SOME INFORMATION THERE!

WELL— WHO ARE YOU?

I'M FROM ACROSS THE RIDGE! RAN OUT OF FLOUR, AND CAME OVER TO SEE IF YOU'D SELL ME A FEW POUNDS!

I GUESS I CAN SPARE SOME! COME ON IN!

THANKS!

SO YOU'RE FROM ACROSS THE RIDGE, EH? NEVER KNEW THERE WAS ANY CABIN THERE!

PERHAPS YOU'VE NEVER BEEN FAR ENOUGH DOWN THE — SAY! DO I HEAR VOICES UNDER THIS FLOOR?

YOU MUST BE HEARING THINGS, STRANGER! I LIVE HERE ALONE, LIKE THE OTHER TRAPPERS IN THIS COUNTRY!

SUDDENLY A SECTION OF THE FLOOR OPENS UP, AND A HELMETED HEAD APPEARS....

WELL! QUITE A SURPRISE TO SEE AN AVIATOR POP UP OUT OF THE GROUND!

LISTEN, YOU! IT'S NO BUSINESS OF YOURS WHAT GOES ON HERE! GET OUT!

OKAY, FELLOW! I DIDN'T MEAN TO BREAK IN ON YOUR AFFAIRS!

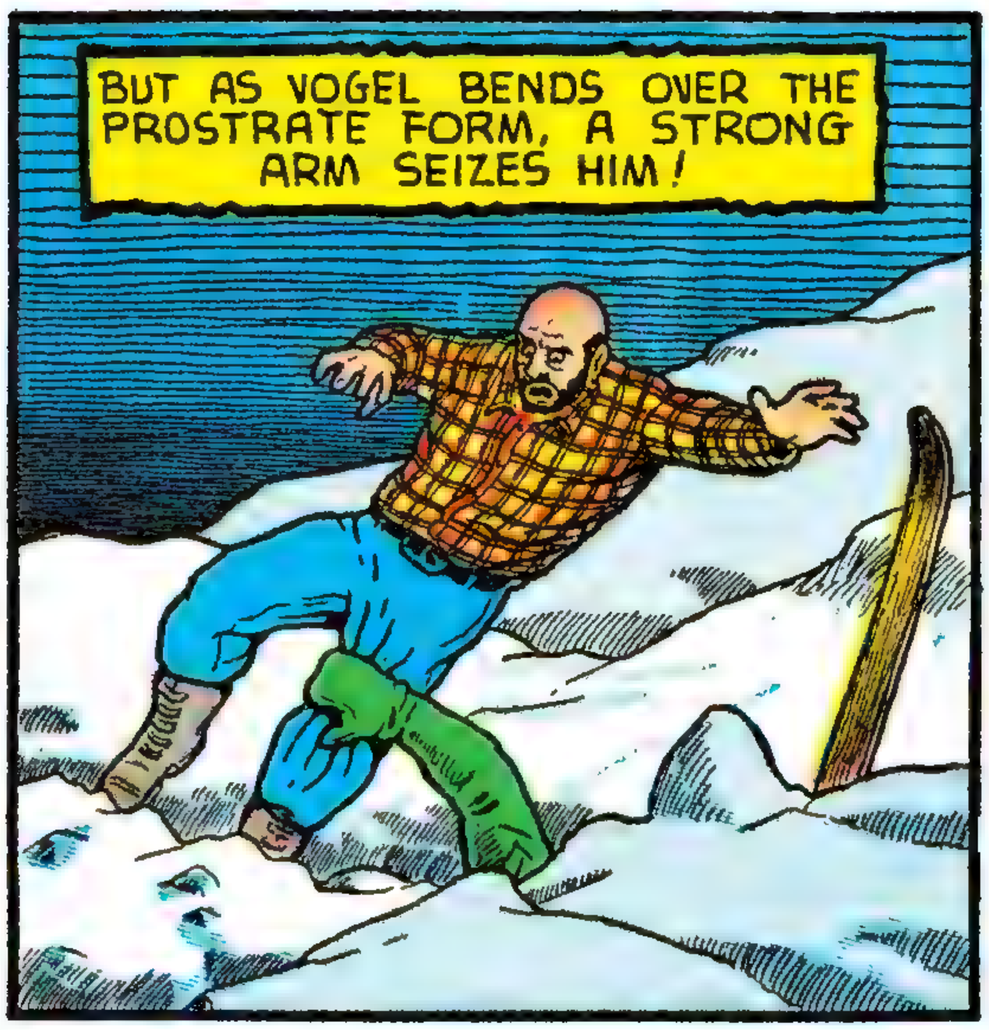
YOU BLUNDERING IDIOT! WHY DIDN'T YOU USE A LITTLE CAUTION, INSTEAD OF BOLTING IN HERE? YOU SHOULD REALIZE HOW IMPORTANT IT IS TO THE FATHERLAND THAT THIS AIRPORT'S LOCATION BE KEPT A SECRET!

SORRY, VOGEL! THE FELLOWS BROUGHT ME UP HERE THRU THE TUNNEL AS SOON AS I LANDED! THEY SAID YOU'D WANT TO SEE ME RIGHT AWAY!

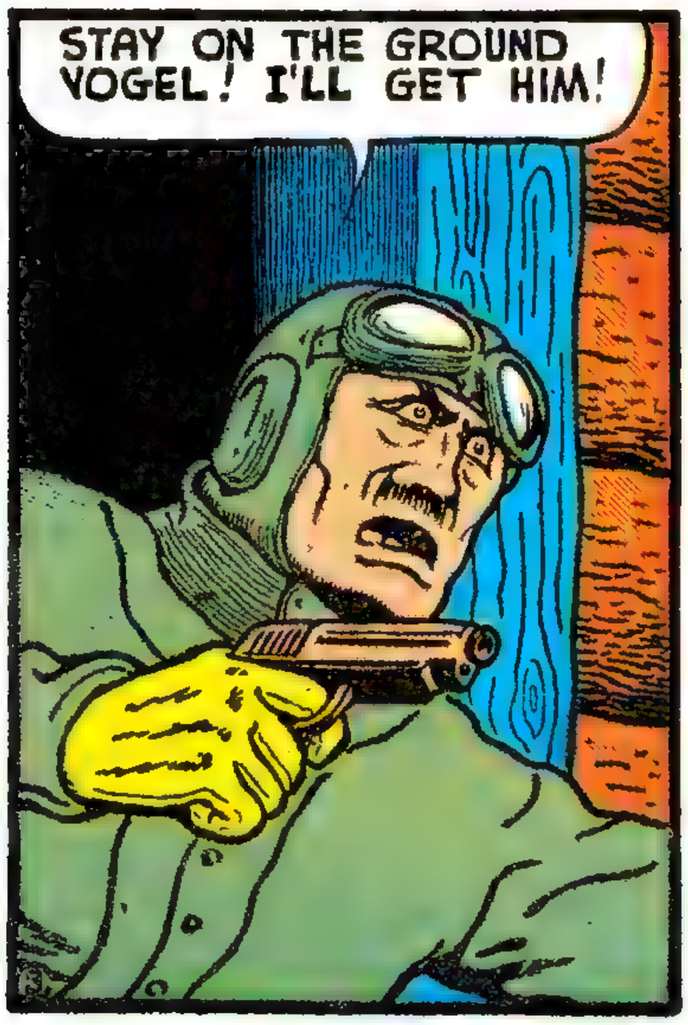
WE CAN'T TAKE CHANCES! THIS WILL KEEP OUR CALLER FROM SPREADING ANYTHING HE MAY KNOW!

A SHOT SHATTERS THE STILLNESS, AND SPACEHAWK SPRAWLS IN THE SNOW!

I'LL HAVE TO DRAG HIM IN, OR THE WOLVES WILL START TO GATHER!


BUT AS VOGEL BENDS OVER THE PROSTRATE FORM, A STRONG ARM SEIZES HIM!

I OUGHT TO GIVE YOU WORSE THAN THIS FOR TRYING TO SHOOT ME IN THE BACK!


STAY ON THE GROUND VOGEL! I'LL GET HIM!

SPACEHAWK DARTS AWAY AMID A SHOWER OF BULLETS
DON'T WORRY ABOUT LOSING ME, MEN! I'LL BE BACK!

—AND, AS NIGHT FALLS, SPACEHAWK RETURNS...
NOW I'M GOING TO FIND OUT WHAT GOES ON AROUND HERE!

SOUNDS LIKE A PLANE IN THE SKY! YES, IT IS, AND IT'S COMING THIS WAY!

TO SPACEHAWK'S SURPRISE AN OPENING APPEARS IN A NEARBY HILL, DISCLOSING A HUGE, LIGHTED CAVERN. A MINUTE LATER THE PLANE SWOOPS THRU THE ENTRANCE, AND LANDS ON THE SMOOTH CAVERN FLOOR.....

THE CAMOUFLAGED DOOR SWINGS BACK INTO PLACE, HIDING ALL TRACE OF THE LANDING SPOT!

NO WONDER I LOST SIGHT OF THAT SHIP THIS AFTERNOON! THIS EXPLAINS IT!

EVIDENTLY THERE'S A TUNNEL FROM THE CABIN TO THAT UNDERGROUND HANGAR. IF I COULD GET INSIDE.....

SPACEHAWK CRAWLS TO THE CABIN. FINDING A TINY CHINK BETWEEN TWO LOGS, HE PEERS INSIDE....

THE PLACE IS PACKED WITH AVIATORS! THAT MEANS THERE ARE MANY SHIPS INSIDE THAT HILL!

MEN, OUR LAST SHIP HAS ARRIVED FROM OUR HOMELAND, AND OUR SECRET BASE HAS NOT YET BEEN DISCOVERED BY OUR ENEMIES! SO FAR, WE HAVE BEEN SUCCESSFUL. THE REST OF OUR WORK DEPENDS ON SPEED! THEREFORE WE MUST STRIKE TONIGHT! OUR SMALL BOMBERS ARE SWIFT, AND OUR ATTACK ON U.S. INDUSTRIAL PLANTS WILL BE A COMPLETE SURPRISE. YOU HAVE YOUR ORDERS! REMEMBER —YOU **MUST** DESTROY YOUR OBJECTIVES.

THE FLYERS FILE BACK INTO THE TUNNEL LEADING TO THE LANDING CAVERN, LEAVING VOGEL ALONE....

AH! WITHIN A FEW HOURS MANY OF THE LARGEST MANUFACTURING PLANTS IN THE UNITED STATES WILL BE REDUCED TO SPLINTERS! WHAT A BLOW IT WILL BE TO THEIR DEFENSE PROGRAM!

SUDDENLY THE BARRED DOOR FLIES OPEN....

YOU! WHAT'S THE IDEA? I'LL TEACH YOU NOT TO BREAK IN HERE!

SPACEHAWK'S LIGHTNING-LIKE HAND SNATCHES THE WEAPON...

NOW! NOW! LET'S NOT BE UNSOCIABLE! I DROPPED IN TO SEE HOW YOUR BLACK EYE IS COMING!

—AND TO TELL YOU THAT YOU'RE MAKING A GRAVE MISTAKE IN SENDING SHIPS TO BOMB FACTORIES IN THE UNITED STATES! WHAT DO YOU IMAGINE THE U.S. AIR FORCE WILL BE DOING IN THE MEANTIME? THE FACT IS, NOT A ONE OF YOUR SHIPS WILL RETURN!

SO YOU SNOOPED AROUND TILL YOU FOUND OUR BASE, EH? WELL, **THIS** TIME YOU WON'T GET AWAY FROM HERE SO YOU CAN TELL ANY ONE ELSE ABOUT IT! AS FOR OUR SHIPS, OF COURSE I'M NOT FOOL ENOUGH TO BELIEVE THEY'LL COME BACK! THE IDEA IS, AT ANY COST, TO GET A FEW GOOD LICKS IN ON THAT MOB OF FAT DEMOCRACY-LOVING AMERICANS!

YOU AND YOUR KIND ARE RATS, WITHOUT REGARD-EVEN FOR YOUR OWN MEN! WHAT WOULD YOU SAY IF I TOLD YOU YOUR SHIPS **AREN'T** GOING TO THE UNITED STATES ON ANY BOMBING TRIP?

WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE? **NO** ONE CAN STOP THEM **NOW**! THE SHIPS ARE **ALREADY** TAKING OFF! **LOOK**!

ONE AFTER ANOTHER THE BOMB-LADEN PLANES ZOOM OUT OF THEIR UNDERGROUND LAIR.....

I THINK THEY CAN STILL BE STOPPED! SO LONG! I'LL SETTLE WITH **YOU** LATER!

AM I GOING CRAZY? HE **JUMPED INTO THE SKY!**

VOGEL SEIZES A RIFLE AND RUNS AFTER SPACEHAWK, BUT TO NO AVAIL.

LIFTED BY HIS ANTI-GRAVITY BELT, SPACEHAWK ASCENDS TO HIS SHIP. AND THERE PLANS HIS NEXT MOVE..

IF I ATTACK THOSE SHIPS THEY'LL SCATTER, AND SOME WILL ESCAPE! I'LL HAVE TO DEAL WITH THEM SOME OTHER WAY!

WITH THE AID OF HIS ROBOTS, SPACE-HAWK ATTACHES ANTI-GRAVITY UNITS TO A NUMBER OF STEEL CABLES.....

THEN, STREAKING THRU THE STRATOSPHERE, HE SHOOTS AHEAD OF THE BOMBERS ..

THERE THEY ARE OVER LOBSTER BAY, AND HEADED STRAIGHT FOR THE U.S. ATLANTIC SEA-BOARD!

MANY MILES SOUTH OF THE FLEET, SPACEHAWK DIVES EARTHWARD AND TOSSES OUT THE CABLES. SUSPENDED BY THE ANTI-GRAVITY ELEMENTS, THEY FORM A VAST NET ACROSS THE SKY.

NOW, IF ONLY THOSE PLANES DON'T CHANGE THEIR COURSE!

AH! HERE THEY COME!

THE SWIFT LITTLE BOMBERS ROAR OUT OF THE NORTHERN SKIES —

— AND CRASH DIRECTLY INTO THE STEEL CABLES!

SEVERAL OF THE REAR SHIPS MANAGE TO TURN ASIDE ...

BUT SPACEHAWK KEEPS HIS EYES ON THEM, AND ONE BY ONE BLASTS THEM TO EARTH!

THERE'S ONLY ONE MORE THING TO DO!

MEANWHILE, BACK IN HIS CABIN, VOGEL IS FRANTICALLY TRYING TO CONTACT THE FLEET...

WHY DOESN'T THE COMMANDER REPORT? SURELY NOTHING COULD HAVE HAPPENED TO THEM ALREADY!

ABRUPTLY THE DOOR FLIES OPEN...

YOU — AGAIN!

YES! JUST DROPPED IN TO INFORM YOU THAT YOUR SHIPS DIDN'T EVEN GET TO THE U.S. BORDER! YOUR COUNTRY'S SCHEME WAS A MISERABLE FAILURE!

YOU'RE CRAZY!. I'M GOING TO GET RID OF YOU FOR GOOD THIS TIME!

WANT TO GET TOUGH, EH? ALL RIGHT! LETS GO OUT IN THE OPEN SPACES WHERE YOU'LL HAVE PLENTY OF ROOM TO GET TOUGH IN!

AS SPACEHAWK RELEASES HIM, VOGEL PUTS ALL HIS STRENGTH AND FURY INTO ONE WILD BLOW....

TSK! TSK! YOUR AIM IS TERRIBLE!

THEN, LIKE A BATTERING RAM, SPACEHAWK'S STEELY FIST FLASHES OUT....

ALLOW ME TO DEMONSTRATE HOW IT SHOULD BE DONE!

WHOP

VOGEL IS LIFTED INTO THE AIR.....

—AND HIS LIMP FORM PLUNGES OVER A CLIFF.

MINUTES LATER, SPACEHAWK SMASHES THE HIDDEN BASE WITH HIS SPACE-SHIP'S POWERFUL BLAST CANNON...

THAT'S THE END OF THAT PLAN TO HARM THE UNITED STATES!

Next Month

SPACEHAWK GOES AFTER A DIABOLICAL GERM-SPREADING SCIENTIST! A SWELL STORY IN TARGET COMICS

SPACEHAWK

SPACEHAWK, MYSTERIOUS DEFENDER OF AMERICA, DECIDES TO MAKE SOME CHANGES IN HIS ROCKET SHIP. HE TAKES THE CRAFT TO A FORSAKEN SPOT IN THE ROCKY MOUNTAINS, AND THERE DOES THE WORK....

FINISHED AT LAST! WITH THAT NEW, STREAMLINE OUTER SHELL, I SHOULD GET BETTER PERFORMANCE HERE INSIDE THE EARTH'S HEAVY ATMOSPHERE!

BASIL WOLVERTON

I HATE TO LEAVE A PEACEFUL SPOT LIKE THIS, HIDDEN AWAY FROM PRYING EYES. BUT I MUST GET BACK INTO ACTION!

SPACEHAWK DOES NOT GUESS THAT AT THAT VERY MOMENT HE IS BEING WATCHED FROM A DISTANT CRAG....

WITHIN THAT CRAG IS THE HIDDEN LABORATORY OF THE SINISTER DR. GORE, ELUSIVE MASTERMIND OF SCIENCE!

A WINGLESS SHIP! IT DOESN'T MAKE SENSE — — UNLESS — —

—UNLESS THESE RUMORS I'VE BEEN HEARING ABOUT A WINGLESS ROCKET SHIP ARE TRUE! HM-M! THOSE COULD BE ROCKET BARRELS I SEE! CAN THIS BE THE CRAFT OF THAT FABULOUS PERSON CALLED SPACEHAWK?

THERE'S SOME ONE IN STRANGE APPAREL WALKING AROUND THE SHIP! YES! THAT MUST BE THE MYSTERY MAN WHOSE QUEER SHIP HAS BEEN SIGHTED IN SEVERAL PLACES THRUOUT THE WORLD!

THIS IS INDEED A STROKE OF GOOD LUCK — MY CHANCE TO DISCOVER HOW THAT SHIP IS LIFTED OFF THE GROUND!

DAGGOR!

YES, MASTER!

GO DOWN THIS SIDE OF THE MOUNTAIN, AND YOU'LL FIND A STRANGE KIND OF AIRCRAFT ON A LEDGE! A MAN IN A GREEN UNIFORM IS THERE! BRING HIM BACK TO ME — **ALIVE!**

CAREFULLY CONCEALING HIMSELF AS HE GOES, DAGGOR HURRIES ON HIS MISSION....

IF THIS SPACEHAWK IS THE GENIUS HE APPEARS TO BE, WE'LL HAVE MUCH TO DISCUSS!

LATER, AS SPACEHAWK IS CLEANING UP THE METAL SCRAPS FROM HIS SHIP, DAGGOR CREEPS TOWARD HIM WITH THE QUIET STEALTHINESS OF AN ANIMAL!

BUT SPACEHAWK'S KEEN SENSES WARN HIM. HE WHIRLS, AND REACHES FOR HIS GUN.....

DAGGOR RUSHES IN TO SEIZE IT, BUT—

OH—YOU DON'T WANT ME TO USE THE GUN, EH? THEN HOW ABOUT THIS?

WHOP!

IT'S HARD TELLING HOW MANY MORE ARE HANGING AROUND! I'LL FOLLOW HIS TRACKS, AND PERHAPS I CAN FIND OUT!

EASILY CARRYING HIS ATTACKER, SPACEHAWK FOLLOWS DAGGOR'S TRAIL UP THE MOUNTAIN.

WHAT'S THIS? DAGGOR ISN'T DOING THE CARRYING! IT'S THE OTHER WAY AROUND! WHY— THAT MAN MUST BE ANOTHER SAMSON!

ALL THE WAY TO THE TOP, AND THE TRAIL ENDS AT A DOOR IN THE SOLID ROCK! VERY INTERESTING!

DR. GORE STEPS OUT FROM BEHIND A ROCK

RAISE YOUR HANDS! QUICK, OR I'LL PERFORATE THEM WITH THIS NEEDLE GUN!

MOVING WITH SURPRISING SPEED, DR. GORE SNATCHES SPACEHAWK'S GUN....

CONSIDERATE OF YOU TO BRING MY SERVANT BACK TO ME! NOW GET INSIDE!

FOR A HERMIT, THIS IS A FANCY PLACE YOU HAVE HERE!

I AM NOT A HERMIT. I AM DR. GORE! AND YOU — YOU ARE THE MYSTERIOUS PERSON KNOWN AS SPACEHAWK, ARE YOU NOT?

RIGHT! WHAT DO YOU WANT OF ME?

BEFORE I GO INTO THAT, I'LL MAKE SURE YOU WON'T TRY TO RUN OUT ON ME! TURN AROUND!

DR. GORE TOSSES A SMALL DART INTO SPACEHAWK'S SHOULDER.....

THAT LITTLE SHOT OF PARALOZINE SHOULD BE DELIGHTFULLY RELAXING! YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO MOVE YOUR ARMS OR LEGS FOR SEVERAL HOURS!

YOU'LL REGRET THIS!

SILENCE! LISTEN TO ME! I HAVE MORE KNOWLEDGE OF SCIENCE THAN ANY ONE ON EARTH! THEREFORE, I AM THE LOGICAL ONE TO RULE THIS WORLD! YOU WILL HELP ME DO THIS BY TRANSPORTING ME ABOUT IN YOUR ROCKET SHIP! WE CAN STRIKE TERROR INTO ALL NATIONS AND CAN COME INTO SUDDEN POWER! WITH OUR COMBINED KNOWLEDGE OF —

SAVE YOUR BREATH! I'LL HAVE NO PART IN SUCH A MAD PLAN!

AH, BUT YOU CAN'T ENTIRELY REFUSE TO COOPERATE! YOU'LL AT LEAST ADVISE ME HOW YOUR SHIP OPERATES — AND WHAT GREAT POWER KEEPS IT ALOFT! TELL ME — IS IT AN ANTI-GRAVITY FORCE?

TRY AND FIND OUT— —IF YOU CAN!

I CAN! WHEN I GET THRU WITH YOU, YOU'LL BE GLAD TO TELL ME WHAT I WANT TO KNOW!

FOR EXAMPLE, HOW DO YOU LIKE THIS?

OH—YOU'VE REGAINED YOUR SENSES AT LAST, EH? DO YOU REALIZE YOU'VE FAILED ME? I'LL SETTLE WITH YOU LATER! NOW STAY HERE AND KEEP AN EYE ON THIS MAN!

YES, MASTER!

A SHORT WHILE LATER, HAVING DECIDED TO EXAMINE SPACEHAWK'S SHIP, DR. GORE APPROACHES THE CRAFT..

PERHAPS I SHANT NEED SPACEHAWK! AFTER ALL, HIS SHIP IS THE IMPORTANT THING! SURELY I AM CLEVER ENOUGH TO UNDERSTAND AND OPERATE ANY MACHINE IN EXISTENCE!

ROBOTS! BUT OF WHAT VALUE ARE LIFELESS MECHANICAL MEN?

DR. GORE CAREFULLY INSPECTS THE VARIOUS CONTROLS AND POWER UNITS. FINALLY--

AH! HERE IS WHAT I'M SEARCHING FOR—THE SECRET OF ANTI-GRAVITY! IT IS THE THING THAT WILL HELP ME CONQUER THE WORLD!

5

WHAT A MARVELOUS PIECE OF MECHANISM THIS SHIP IS! I MUST TRY IT OUT! I'LL TURN ON THE LIFTING POWER, THEN THE ROCKETS—

THE CRAFT LUNGES WILDLY INTO THE SKY

AMAZING SPEED AND POWER! I MUST LEVEL OFF QUICKLY, OR I'LL SHOOT OUT INTO SPACE!

ZOOM!

IF I CAN'T PULL IT OUT OF THIS DIVE, I'LL CRASH!

DR. GORE SEIZES THE WRONG CONTROLS. THE SHIP ARCHES OVER AND HEADS BACK TO EARTH!

BACK AT DR. GORE'S LABORATORY, SPACEHAWK BEGINS TO REVIVE AS HIS STRONG BODY THROWS OFF THE DRUG'S EFFECT....

WHERE'S YOUR MASTER?

STOP TALK! YOU TALK MORE, I BREAK HEAD!

SPACEHAWK SUMMONS ALL HIS ENERGY—

LET'S TAKE TURNS! I'LL BREAK YOURS FIRST!

AND THIS TIME I'M NOT PULLING MY PUNCHES!

CRACK!!

SPACEHAWK HEARS A FAMILIAR ROAR, AND RUSHES OUTSIDE...

MY SHIP—FALLING! DR. GORE MUST BE TRYING TO FLY IT!

SPACEHAWK'S POTENT BRAIN SHOOTS A MESSAGE TO HIS MIND-CONTROLLED ROBOTS. INSTANTLY THEY LEAP INTO ACTION, AND SEIZE THE CONTROLS....

THEY'RE ALIVE!

THAT WAS CLOSE! A FEW SECONDS MORE, AND THE SHIP WOULD HAVE CRASHED!

AT SPACEHAWK'S CONTINUED COMMANDS, THE ROBOTS LAND THE SHIP NEAR THE LABORATORY—THEN TURN ON DR. GORE..

YOU INHUMAN MONSTERS! SPACEHAWK MUST BE CONTROLLING YOU BY TELEPATHIC MESSAGES! WELL — I, TOO, HAVE A STRONG MIND! I COMMAND YOU TO STAND BACK!

INCAPABLE OF FUNCTIONING UNDER TWO SEPARATE MENTAL COMMANDS, THE ROBOTS DROP IN THEIR TRACKS.....

AH!

AS DR. GORE LEAPS OUT OF THE SHIP, HE RECEIVES A SURPRISE!

MIGHTY POOR FLYING, DR. GORE! — EVEN FOR A BEGINNER! NOW I'M GOING TO GIVE YOU SOME POINTERS!

DR. GORE WHIPS OUT A NEEDLE GUN. SPACEHAWK LUNGES, AND SENDS IT SPINNING, BUT NOT BEFORE SOME OF THE NEEDLES ZIP THRU HIS LEGS...

YOU'D BETTER RUN! IF I GET MY HANDS ON YOU, I'LL CRUSH YOU TO A PULP!

HE'LL BE AT MY MERCY AGAIN JUST AS SOON AS I GET ANOTHER GUN!

WHILE DR. GORE IS RE-ARMING HIMSELF IN HIS LABORATORY, SPACEHAWK PAINFULLY MAKES HIS WAY INTO HIS SHIP....

THE SHIP IS TAKING OFF! HE'S ESCAPING!

SMALL MATTER THOUGH! I HAVE THE SECRET OF HIS ANTI-GRAVITY POWER! THAT'S THE IMPORTANT THING! I'LL MAKE QUICK USE OF IT TO MAKE MYSELF MASTER OF THE SKIES!

SPACEHAWK ZOOMS UP, THEN DIVES BACK TOWARD DR. GORE'S MOUNTAIN LABORATORY. AS THE SHIP'S ROCKET BARRELS SWING DOWN PAST THE CRAG, SPACEHAWK GUNS THE ROCKETS, AND —

CRASH!

BOOM!

THAT SHOULD PUT A PERMANENT CRIMP IN HIS PLANS TO CONQUER THE WORLD!

BUT — IS THIS THE LAST OF DR. GORE?

ANOTHER SPACEHAWK THRILLER IN NEXT MONTH'S TARGET COMICS

SPACEHAWK

SPACEHAWK, MAN FROM SPACE, IS CERTAIN THAT HIS SCIENTIST ENEMY, DR. GORE, HAS BEEN KILLED WHEN SPACE-HAWK BLASTS DOWN THE DOCTOR'S LABORATORY IN THE ROCKY MOUNTAINS. BUT WHEN DR. GORE FEELS THE MOUNTAIN TOP BEGINNING TO TOPPLE, HE LEAPS TO SAFETY IN A SECRET PASSAGE DOWN THRU THE INSIDE OF THE MOUNTAIN!

CRASH!

BLAST DOWN MY LABORATORY, WILL HE? WELL — HE WON'T GET ME!

A CLOSE SHAVE, BUT I'M STILL ALIVE — AND I STILL HAVE SPACEHAWK'S SECRET OF ANTI-GRAVITY POWER, TUCKED AWAY IN MY BRAIN!

BASIL WOLVERTON

THE PASSAGE LEADS TO A CAVE FACING OUT ON A SMALL VALLEY — A NATURAL LANDING FIELD.....

LITTLE DOES SPACEHAWK KNOW THAT I HAVE A PLANE HIDDEN HERE!

NOW TO GET TO MY LABORATORY IN EUROPE AND PLAN MY NEXT STEP!

IN HIS HIDDEN EUROPEAN LABORATORY, WHERE HE CONDUCTS DIABOLIC EXPERIMENTS WITH UNFORTUNATE HUMAN BEINGS, DR. GORE MAKES A DECISION.....

INSTEAD OF IMMEDIATELY USING THE ANTI-GRAVITY SECRET IN A FLEET OF MY OWN PLANES, I SHALL SELL IT TO MY OWN GOVERNMENT!

MY OWN COUNTRY IS THE MOST DESPERATE NATION ON EARTH, AND SHOULD PAY ME THE HIGHEST PRICE! THEN, AS SOON AS I RECEIVE THE CASH, I SHALL DESTROY THOSE MEN WHO ARE INVOLVED IN THE DEAL AND AGAIN THE SECRET WILL BE MINE ONLY—
—AND SPACEHAWK'S!

A FEW HOURS LATER, DR. GORE MEETS WITH OFFICIALS.

AMAZING!

SUCH A THING WOULD SURELY WIN THE WAR FOR US!

LET US SEE YOUR PLANS FOR THIS ANTI-GRAVITY UNIT, DR. GORE!

GENTLEMEN, WHEN YOU PLACE ONE HUNDRED MILLION DOLLARS IN MY HANDS— **CASH**—YOU'LL SEE THE PLANS!

WHAT? YOU ASK A **PRICE** FOR A DEVICE TO DEFEND YOUR OWN NATION? **YOU'LL FACE A FIRING SQUAD FOR THIS!**

DON'T BE A FOOL! THE PLANS ARE ONLY IN MY BRAIN! THE OUTCOME OF THE WAR DEPENDS ON **ME!**

LET US USE TACT! I CAN HAVE THAT MONEY HERE WITHIN A FEW MINUTES! AFTER WE ARE IN POSSESSION OF HIS SECRET, WE'LL HAVE HIM SEIZED!

GOOD! THEN IF THIS IS A HOAX, WE'LL LOSE NOTHING!

LATER

WE HAVE DECIDED YOUR DISCOVERY IS WORTH THE PRICE, DR. GORE! HERE YOU ARE! NOW, WHAT HAVE YOU TO OFFER?

IT'S COMPARATIVELY SIMPLE! I'LL SKETCH IT OUT, AND GIVE YOU THE LIST OF MATERIALS YOU'LL NEED!

EXCUSE ME NOW, GENTLEMEN! I MUST GO. THANK YOU, AND GOOD LUCK!

HE WON'T GO FAR! GUARDS ARE AWAITING HIM!

AS DR. GORE PASSES THRU A DARKENED CORRIDOR, ARMED GUARDS LEAP OUT AT HIM, BUT THE SCIENTIST'S NEEDLE GUN SPITS SILENT DEATH INTO THEIR BODIES!

WHAT STUPIDITY TO THINK THAT I SHOULD FALL INTO SUCH AN OBVIOUS TRAP!

HE SAFELY REACHES HIS LABORATORY....

ONE HUNDRED MILLION DOLLARS! THEY NEVER GUESSED THERE WAS THE REMOTEST CHANCE OF ACTUALLY LOSING IT! WHAT A DEAL!

NOW, TO DISGUISE MYSELF AS A GUARD AND RETURN TO GET MY SKETCHES — AND TO ERASE EVERY MAN WHO HAS SEEN THEM! AGAIN I SHALL PROVE HOW FUTILE IT IS TO TRY TO DOUBLECROSS ME!

MEANWHILE, AS SPACEHAWK CRUISES THRU THE STRATOSPHERE....

WHAT'S THIS?— A SHIP COMING IN OUT OF SPACE! I MUST STOP IT!

HALT AND IDENTIFY YOURSELF!

I COME IN PEACE, A STRANGER FROM A DISTANT SOLAR SYSTEM! I WISH TO VISIT THIS PLANET!

NOT WITHOUT INSPECTION! PULL ALONGSIDE AND OPEN YOUR AIRLOCK DOORS!

DEFYING THE SEMI-VACUUM OF THE STRATOSPHERE, SPACEHAWK LEAPS ABOARD THE OTHER SHIP....

SPACEHAWK RUSHES IN...

THE ANSWER COMES BACK...

INSIDE THE STRANGE CRAFT—

DORK! WHY YOU OLD ROCKET-RIDER! WHERE'D YOU COME FROM?

SPACEHAWK! I NEVER EXPECTED TO SEE YOU AGAIN!

WHAT BRINGS YOU SO FAR FROM HOME?

I HEARD RUMORS THAT THE PLANET EARTH IS ENGULFED IN WAR, AND I CAME TO SEE HOW OTHER WORLDS WAGE THEIR BATTLES!

IT'S NOT PLEASANT. GREEDY DICTATORS ARE KILLING THOUSANDS IN THEIR DRIVES TO CONQUER PEACE-LOVING NATIONS! IF YOU'D LIKE TO SEE HOW A DICTATOR-NATION FUNCTIONS, I'LL TAKE YOU TO A RINGSIDE SEAT!

LET'S GO! AND WHILE WE'RE ON THE WAY, TELL ME WHAT YOU'VE BEEN DOING ALL THESE YEARS!

THE TWO SHIPS DIVE EARTHWARD...

EQUIPPED WITH ANTI-GRAVITY BELTS, SPACEHAWK AND DORK FLOAT DOWN OVER A DARKENED CITY...

THIS IS ONE OF THE PLACES WHERE WAR PLANS ARE MADE! WE'LL SEE WHAT GOES ON INSIDE!

INSIDE, EXCITED OFFICIALS ARE CONSTRUCTING A WORKING MODEL, FROM THE SKETCHES OBTAINED FROM DR. GORE...

THIS ANTI-GRAVITY DEVICE HAD BETTER WORK, OR WE'RE OUT AN ENORMOUS SUM! I CAN'T UNDERSTAND HOW THAT CROOKED SCIENTIST ESCAPED!

DON'T WORRY! WE'LL GET HIM! I'VE GIVEN ORDERS TO SHOOT HIM ON SIGHT!

THE DOOR SWINGS OPEN.....

RAISE YOUR HANDS, AND STAND BACK!

GUARD! WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY BREAKING IN HERE AND —

THAT'S NO GUARD! IT'S DR. GORE!

YES, GENTLEMEN — DR. GORE! I'VE SILENCED YOUR GUARDS WITH THIS NEEDLE PISTOL! NOW, I'M GOING TO SILENCE YOU THREE WITH THIS CAPSULE OF DEADLY LETHANE GAS!

FIRST, HOWEVER, I'LL PUT ON THIS MASK! THEN I'LL BURN THESE SKETCHES YOU SO OBLIGINGLY PURCHASED FROM ME!

SPACEHAWK IS AMAZED AT WHAT HE SEES....

DR. GORE — ALIVE! AND ALREADY HE'S SOLD THE ANTI-GRAVITY SECRET HE STOLE FROM MY SHIP!

YOU MEAN EARTHLINGS DON'T KNOW HOW TO OFFSET GRAVITY?

NO, AND FOR THEIR OWN WELFARE THEY MUST NOT FIND OUT! THEIR AIR WARFARE IS ALREADY HORRIBLE ENOUGH! WAIT HERE, DORK! I'M GOING AFTER THAT MAN!

CRASH!

WHAT THE —!?

THIS IS A MADHOUSE! I'M GOING CRAZY!

SPACEHAWK!

SPACEHAWK COMES CRASHING THRU THE WINDOW!

NOW I'M GOING TO SETTLE WITH YOU!

STAND BACK, OR I'LL FLING THIS GAS CAPSULE RIGHT IN YOUR FACE!

THIS IS OUR CHANCE! SHOOT THEM BOTH!

THE RAT! I'LL FIX HIM!

PARDON ME, BROTHER, BUT I HAVE A MANIA FOR LEAPING ON PEOPLE I DON'T LIKE!

GOOD WORK, DORK!

YES — GOOD INDEED! THE MORE THE MERRIER WHEN I SQUEEZE OPEN THIS CAPSULE! HERE GOES!

ANOTHER ONE! WHAT IS ALL THIS?

OUTSIDE, DORK SEES THE OFFICER RAISE HIS PISTOL...

THUD!

SWIFT AS A BULLET SPACEHAWK'S HAND FLASHES OUT AND SNATCHES THE CONTAINER OF GAS...

FURIOUS, DR. GORE LUNGES, AND IN THE MELEE THAT FOLLOWS, THE CAPSULE FALLS TO THE FLOOR.....

TAKE CARE OF THE OTHERS, DORK — IF YOU CAN!

WHO SAYS I CAN'T?

I'LL PUT YOU OUT LIKE A LIGHT!

YOU'LL HAVE TO MOVE FASTER THAN THAT!

CRACK!

BOP!

SOME ONE TRAMPS ON THE GAS CAPSULE....

ACRID, DEATH-DEALING FUMES FILL THE ROOM....

IT'S THE GAS! LET US OUT OF HERE!

HA! NOW WE'LL SEE WHO'S MASTER OF THE SITUATION!

IT'S NOT GOING TO BE YOU! YOU'RE LEAVING HERE WITH ME!

HOLD YOUR BREATH, DORK, AND GET OUTSIDE— QUICK!

OUTSIDE...

MAN! THAT WAS A NARROW ESCAPE! WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO WITH HIM?

I'VE GOT TO FIND OUT IF HE'S SOLD THE ANTI-GRAVITY SECRET TO ANY OTHER NATION!

LET GO OF ME!

THE TWO MEN CARRY DR. GORE TO SPACEHAWK'S SHIP....

NOW TELL ME, DR. GORE — IS ANY ONE ELSE IN POSSESSION OF THE ANTI-GRAVITY SECRET?

I'LL TELL YOU NOTHING! AND DON'T WEARY YOUR BRAIN TRYING TO READ MY MIND!

LET ME BEAT IT OUT OF HIM, SPACEHAWK!

THAT'S NOT NECESSARY, DORK! HE HAS A STRONG MIND, BUT I CAN READ IT ENOUGH TO KNOW THAT THE SECRET STILL REMAINS WITH HIM!

GOOD!

WELL, MASTER-MIND, WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO NOW?

SHOOTING IS TOO GOOD FOR YOU! YOU DESERVE SOMETHING A BIT MORE DRAWN OUT!

I HAVE IT, SPACEHAWK! LET ME TAKE HIM TO MARS, AND LEAVE HIM IN THE DESERT OF THE LIZARD DUNES! **THAT**'LL GIVE HIM A CHANCE TO THINK THINGS OVER!

WHAT? YOU MEAN YOU'D ATTEMPT TO TRAVEL THRU **SPACE**? THAT'S RIDICULOUS!

BROTHER, YOU'RE DUE FOR A TERRIFIC SURPRISE! INSIDE OF TEN EARTH DAYS YOU'LL BE CRAWLING ACROSS THE WORST PART OF MARS, YOUR TONGUE HANGING OUT A FOOT FOR LACK OF WATER!

NO! NO! YOU CAN'T DO THAT TO ME!

THAT'S **YOUR** OPINION, DR. GORE. TAKE HIM AWAY, DORK! THANKS FOR THE HELP!

I'LL SEE YOU LATER, SPACEHAWK!

MARK MY WORDS, YOU'LL PAY FOR THIS, SPACEHAWK!

DORK CARRIES DR. GORE TO HIS SHIP, AND ROARS OFF INTO THE YAWNING VOID...

STRANGE I NEVER THOUGHT OF THAT! MARS IS JUST THE PLACE FOR SEVERAL MEN ON EARTH I KNOW!

NEXT MONTH

SPACEHAWK GOES AFTER INVADERS FROM THE STRATOSPHERE *in* **TARGET COMICS**

Spacehawk

by Basil Wolverton

HERR NITWITLER, DICTATOR, IS ENRAGED BY THE ACTION CANADA HAS TAKEN AGAINST HIS BLOODY WAR MACHINE.....

I KEEP SENDING SUBMARINES AND BOMBERS AFTER THEIR TROOP TRANSPORTS, BUT THEY STILL MANAGE TO GET OVER HERE! I'LL STOP THEM, THOUGH! I'VE SAVED AN ACE IN THE HOLE FOR JUST SUCH A SITUATION, AND NOW I'M GOING TO PLAY IT! SEND FOR CAPTAIN KOHLER!

YES, SIR!

CAPTAIN KOHLER, THE TIME HAS COME TO USE OUR SECRET STRATOSPHERE SHIPS! YOU WILL TAKE HALF OF THEM ACROSS THE ATLANTIC AND BOMB THE POINTS MARKED ON THIS MAP!

PREPARE SIX OF THE SHIPS FOR IMMEDIATE FLIGHT!

KOHLER SPEEDS TO A HANGAR HIDDEN UNDERGROUND—

PRESENTLY SIX TUBULAR OBJECTS, PROPELLED BY A POWERFUL GAS, HISS UP OUT OF THE EARTH.....

KOHLER, INSIDE THE FOREMOST ONE, BARKS ORDERS TO THE OTHER FIVE PILOTS..

THIS IS OUR CEILING — EIGHTY THOUSAND FEET! PUT OUT YOUR GUIDERS!

WINGS AND TAIL ASSEMBLIES JUT OUT OF THE CRAFT, WHICH IMMEDIATELY LEVEL OFF AND ZIP WESTWARD AT HIGH SPEED.....

THIS FLIGHT WILL PROVE THAT WE ARE MASTERS EVEN OF THE STRATOSPHERE! NO ONE CAN SEE US! NO ONE CAN STOP US! WHAT A SURPRISE THOSE CONCEITED CANADIANS WILL GET WHEN OUR NEW SUPER-BLAST BOMBS STRIKE EARTH! YES — THIS IS MY BIG DAY! I'LL BE A NATIONAL HERO WHEN I RETURN!

LITTLE DOES KOHLER REALIZE THAT SHARP EYES ARE ALREADY UPON HIM...

THOSE STREAKS OF LIGHT IN THE SKY — THEY'RE TOO PARALLEL TO BE METEORS' TAILS! THEY MUST BE EXHAUST FLAMES FROM SOME KIND OF AIRCRAFT!

SPACEHAWK STREAKS IN PURSUIT....

SHIPS TRAVELING FIFTEEN MILES ABOVE THE EARTH! FOR EARTHLINGS, THAT'S MIGHTY HIGH FLYING! I'LL SOON FIND OUT WHAT THIS IS ABOUT!

SPACEHAWK SHOOTS OUT INTO SPACE, THEN DIVES DOWN INTO THE PATH OF THE INVADERS....

KOHLER STIFFENS AT SIGHT OF THE DARTING STEEL GIANT....

WHAT THE --! ANOTHER SHIP UP HERE IN THE STRATOSPHERE!?

IDENTIFY YOURSELVES AND GIVE YOUR DESTINATION, OR I SHALL ATTACK!

A VOICE BOOMS THRU KOHLER'S EARPHONES....

THE FRIGHTENED CAPTAIN DOES NOT REPLY TO SPACE-HAWK. INSTEAD, HE STAMMERS A COMMAND TO HIS PILOTS....

IGNORE THIS INTRUDER! STICK TO YOUR COURSE!

THE COMMANDER'S LANGUAGE AND ATTITUDE PROVE THESE ARE ENEMY SHIPS! THEY CAN IGNORE ME IF THEY WISH — BUT I'M NOT GOING TO IGNORE THEM!

SPACEHAWK CIRCLES ABOUT. HIS BLAST CANNON SPEWS OUT A BOLT OF FLAME, AND ONE OF THE STRATOSPHERE SHIPS EXPLODES INTO OBLIVION!

A GIANT FLAME-THROWER! WE'LL ALL BE BLASTED TO ATOMS! I'LL HAVE TO GET OUT OF HERE—QUICK!

LEAVING THE OTHER SHIPS TO THEIR DOOM, KOHLER RELEASES HIS BOMBS AND FLEES...

BOOM!

MILES BELOW, THE LETHAL LOAD HURLS TONS OF WATER INTO THE AIR!

SPACEHAWK PUTS A QUICK END TO THE REMAINING CRAFT....

JUST AS I THOUGHT— —ALL OF THEM LOADED WITH POWERFUL BOMBS INTENDED FOR SOME OBJECTIVE IN NORTH AMERICA!

NOW TO GET THE ONE THAT TURNED BACK!

KOHLER'S HEAD START GETS HIM OVER HOME TERRITORY, BUT IN HIS ANXIETY TO LAND IN THE FIRST OPEN SPOT HE SEES, HE PILES HIS SHIP UP....

OUT OF THE FRYING PAN AND INTO THE FIRE! NOW I MUST FACE HERR NITWITLER! I'D BETTER MAKE IT A GOOD STORY, OR I'LL WISH I HAD STAYED IN THE SKY!

ALTHOUGH SPACEHAWK KEEPS AN EYE ON KOHLER BY MEANS OF HIS ELECTRO-SCOPE, HE CANNOT REACH THE OFFICER IN TIME TO PREVENT HIS ESCAPE...

BUT AS SPACEHAWK ROARS IN OVER ENEMY TERRITORY, HIS EAGLE-LIKE SIGHT IS ATTRACTED TO THE PROTRUDING MUZZLES OF THE RAIDERS' LAUNCHING TUBES...

I THINK I'LL STICK AROUND AND FIND OUT WHAT THOSE THINGS ARE!

MEANWHILE, HERR NITWITLER RECEIVES WORD OF KOHLER'S RETURN.....

SEND HIM IN! I EXPECT GOOD NEWS!

WELL—? I REGRET TO INFORM YOU, SIR, THAT WE FAILED! THERE WASN'T ENOUGH PRESSURE IN THE GAS CHAMBERS TO KEEP US ALOFT! THE OTHER SHIPS FELL INTO THE SEA! I MADE IT BACK, BUT I—

FAILURES! FAILURES! I'M SICK OF HEARING OF FAILURES! PREPARE THE OTHER SIX SHIPS AND TRY IT AGAIN! FORCE MORE GAS INTO THE CHAMBERS! ROUND UP FIVE MORE PILOTS AND TAKE OFF JUST AS SOON AS YOU CAN! AND DON'T FAIL THIS TIME!

IT IS SUICIDE!

YOU HAVE YOUR ORDERS, CAPTAIN KOHLER! GO!

KOHLER HURRIES BACK TO THE HANGAR....

A FINE MESS! UNLESS I CAN SLIP AWAY FROM THE OTHERS, I'LL BE SHOT DOWN WITH THEM BY THAT MYSTERIOUS SKY DEVIL!

SPACEHAWK IS JUST PREPARING TO COME TO EARTH WHEN SIX SHIPS SHOOT OUT OF THE GROUND....

AHA! THIS SOLVES THE MYSTERY! MORE HIGH FLYING RAIDERS!

I WAS NEARLY IN THEIR PATH, BUT AT THAT SPEED THEY PROBABLY DIDN'T NOTICE ME!

I'LL MAKE CERTAIN NO MORE SHIPS ARE LAUNCHED FROM HERE! AN ACID "BOMB" SHOULD BE JUST THE THING!

SPACEHAWK DROPS A CONTAINER OF DEADLY LIQUID....

CRASH!

THE POTENT ACID QUICKLY KNAWS INTO THE EARTH, DEMOLISHING ALL THE EQUIPMENT BELOW...

NOW TO FINISH THOSE RAIDERS BEFORE THEY REACH NORTH AMERICA!

IN KOHLER'S SHIP...

WE'RE NEARLY ACROSS THE SEA, AND THERE'S NO SIGN OF TROUBLE YET! I BELIEVE WE'LL MAKE IT!

BUT SUDDENLY A LONG SHAPE KNIFES IN AMONG THE CRAFT, BRINGING SWIFT DESTRUCTION!

BOOM!

CRACK!

BANG!

SPACEHAWK FLIES TOO NEAR TO ONE OF THE SHIPS, AND IT EXPLODES DIRECTLY IN FRONT OF HIM...

THERE GOES MY BLAST CANNON'S MUZZLE!—AND I'VE SHOT DOWN ONLY FIVE OF THEM! I'LL HAVE TO GET THE SIXTH SOME OTHER WAY!

HE'S DOWNED THEM ALL EXCEPT ME! I'LL OUTFLY HIM AGAIN, AND THIS TIME I WON'T DROP MY BOMBS TILL I'M OVER CANADA!

KOHLER SOON FINDS THAT HE CAN'T OUTFLY SPACEHAWK...

HIMMEL! HE'S RIGHT BEHIND ME!

LEAVING A ROBOT PILOT TO FLY THE SHIP, SPACEHAWK LEAPS OUT UPON KOHLER'S CRAFT!

ONE BLOW OF HIS STEELY FIST BREAKS THE COCKPIT HOUSING.....

WHAT'S YOUR HURRY, FRITZ?

WHY, YOU—! I'LL—

YOU WILL, EH?

SPACEHAWK DIVES INSIDE AND....

CRACK!

KOHLER TOPPLES INTO THE SKY! HE MAKES IT TO CANADA, BUT NOT IN THE WAY HE INTENDED....

INSIDE KOHLER'S FALLING SHIP—

WHEW! THIS RIG IS JUST ABOUT TO CRASH!

SPACEHAWK TURNS THE CRAFT AROUND SO THAT IT HEADS BACK TO SEA.....

HE LEAPS OUT JUST IN TIME TO ESCAPE THE MAMMOTH WAVE THAT IS BLASTED INTO THE AIR....

LATER, IN HIS SHIP...

NOT A BAD DAY'S WORK! I'VE GOOD REASON TO BELIEVE THAT I'VE DONE SEVERAL THOUSAND CANADIANS A BIG FAVOR!

Next Month

DEATH STRIKES AMERICA, FROM THE SKIES! IN THE NEXT SPACEHAWK ADVENTURE IN TARGET COMICS!

OUT OF THE SKIES COME...

SPACEHAWK

AND THE DISKS OF DEATH

by Basil Wolverton

IT IS NOON IN SAN FRANCISCO. SUDDENLY THE SKY IS FILLED WITH THOUSANDS OF LEAFLETS APPEARING MYSTERIOUSLY OUT OF THE BLUE!

WHAT'S THE IDEA? WHO'S SCATTERING THESE THINGS?

THIS IS PROBABLY SOME HALFWIT'S IDEA OF A JOKE!

WARNING!

THE LEAFLET

WARNING!

Within a few minutes death and terror will visit this city! It is a sample of the fate that will overtake every city in this nation--unless all aid to Britain is stopped immediately! Why bring suffering on yourselves? Think it over!

EXCITED THOUSANDS READ THE LEAFLETS...

BUNK! THIS SORT OF THING DOESN'T SCARE ME!

PROPAGANDA! THIS IS NOTHING BUT A SCHEME TO-

PEOPLE LOOK UP AND SCREAM IN TERROR!

LOOK!— COMING OUT OF THE SKY!

CRASH!

A GIGANTIC SHAPE ROARS DOWN WITH THE SPEED OF A METEOR AND PLUNGES INTO THE CITY, KNIFING THRU BUILDINGS AND TOPPLING THEM INTO THE STREETS!

PANIC-STRICKEN PEOPLE FLEE FROM THE WRECKED ZONE. BUT ONE OUTSTANDING FIGURE, WHO HAS JUST EMERGED FROM A RESTAURANT, CALMLY SURVEYS THE SITUATION....

SOMETHING LIKE THIS **WOULD** HAVE TO HAPPEN JUST WHEN I COME TO EARTH FOR A LITTLE RELAXATION! I MUST GET BACK UP TO MY SHIP!

LOOK AT THAT MAN! HE'S FLYING!

FALLING BUILDINGS! A FLYING MAN! I MUST BE GOOFY!

THE "FLYING" MAN IS THE MYSTERIOUS **SPACEHAWK** WHO, BY MEANS OF HIS ANTI-GRAVITY BELT, STREAKS UP TO HIS SPACE-SHIP IN THE STRATOSPHERE, AND FROM THERE SCANS THE SKIES WITH HIS ELECTROSCOPE...

I SEE THE TROUBLE— AND PLENTY OF IT!

SPACEHAWK'S SHIP ROARS ACROSS THE SKY....

I'M AFRAID SAN FRANCISCO IS IN FOR MORE DESTRUCTION — UNLESS I CAN ACT QUICKLY!

WEARING AN OXYGEN MASK, SO THAT HE CAN BREATHE FREELY IN THE STRATOSPHERE, SPACEHAWK LEAVES HIS SHIP IN THE HANDS OF A MIND-CONTROLLED ROBOT, AND LEAPS DOWN TOWARD THE DESTRUCTIVE THING THAT HOVERS OVER SAN FRANCISCO!

3

HE LANDS ATOP A STRANGE AND GIGANTIC SHIP — A VERITABLE "FLYING WING"!

I'LL HIDE BACK HERE IN THE TAIL ASSEMBLY, AND PERHAPS I CAN BURN OFF THE PROPELLERS WITH MY BLAST GUN!

AT THAT MOMENT— INSIDE THE SHIP.....

NOW TO LAUNCH THE DISK FROM THE OTHER WING! THEN BACK TO THE FATHERLAND FOR TWO MORE DISKS! WE'LL GIVE AMERICA SOMETHING TO WORRY ABOUT!

AND THEY'LL NEVER KNOW JUST HOW IT HAPPENED!

A MAMMOTH SAW-TOOTHED DISK SLIPS FROM THE RIGHT WING...

ROCKETS, BUILT IN THE RIM, GO INTO ACTION, SPINNING THE DISK IN PIN-WHEEL FASHION!

GREAT GALAXIES! THAT'S THE KIND OF THING THAT CUT THRU SAN FRANCISCO'S BUILDINGS — A GIANT CIRCULAR SAW REVOLVING AT HIGH SPEED! WELL— THIS ONE ISN'T GOING TO STRIKE THE CITY!

SPACEHAWK FLASHES A THOUGHT-COMMAND TO THE PILOT OF HIS SHIP....

THE ROBOT OBEYS. HE DIVES THE SPACE-SHIP AND ZOOMS UP UNDER THE DISK THAT HURTLES TOWARD SAN FRANCISCO. FLAME SPEWS FROM THE SHIP'S BLAST-CANNON.

LIFTED BY THE TERRIFIC HEAT, THE DISK OVERSHOOTS ITS TARGET....

ZOOO-O-M!

....AND PLOUGHS INTO THE SEA....

'ZING!---

THAT DID IT! AND NOW, BEFORE I CRASH THIS CRATE, I'M GOING TO HAVE A LITTLE SESSION WITH THE CREW!

SPACEHAWK BATTERS HIS WAY INTO THE REAR COMPARTMENT OF THE CABIN....

CRASH!

STOP HIM BEFORE HE BREAKS INTO THE OTHER COMPARTMENTS!

DON'T WIND YOURSELF, BUD! YOU'RE GOING TO NEED YOUR BREATH!

WHPP!

THE AIR!— IT'S ESCAPING!

HELP! MY LUNGS ARE BURSTING!

UP IN THE CONTROL ROOM.....

DIVE HER, QUICK! THERE MUST BE A BREAK IN THE REAR COMPARTMENT! THE AIR GAUGE REGISTERS ZERO FOR THAT SECTION!

THE MIGHTY CRAFT NOSES OVER.....

THEY'RE DIVING DOWN FOR AIR! I CAN'T LET THEM DO THAT!

THE COMMANDER SEES SPACEHAWK COMING THRU THE CORRIDOR....

A STOWAWAY!

I'LL FIX HIM!

SPACEHAWK SUDDENLY FINDS HIMSELF IN SPACE AS THE HINGED FLOOR DROPS FROM BENEATH HIM.....

HE MAKES QUICK USE OF HIS ANTI-GRAVITY BELT, AND SPRINGS BACK UP TO SEIZE THE SHIP'S TAIL....

WHEW! THAT WAS CLOSE!

WHOEVER THAT WAS, WE'VE SEEN THE LAST OF HIM! NOW GO BACK THERE AND FIND OUT WHAT THE TROUBLE IS!

SPACEHAWK CRAWLS BACK UP ON THE SHIP....

SUDDENLY—

THOUGHT YOU'D LOST ME, EH?

CRASH!

SHOOT HIM!

IF IT'S FIREWORKS YOU WANT, COME AND GET IT!

SPLAT!

GLUNK!

AND NOW, JUST SO YOU MUGS CAN'T SAY I NEVER DID ANYTHING FOR YOU, I'M GOING TO TAKE YOU ALL HOME!

SPACEHAWK PILOTS THE HUGE PLANE BACK INTO THE STRATOSPHERE, AND HEADS FOR EUROPE....

HOURS LATER, HIS KEEN EYES SPOT A VAST, CAMOUFLAGED LANDING FIELD....

THIS MUST BE IT!

HE BOLDLY LANDS AND REMOVES THE DAZED AND INJURED CREW.

ALL OUT! THIS IS THE END OF THE LINE!

AIRPORT OFFICERS ARE BEWILDERED....

WHAT'S THE IDEA? SOME ONE SHOVED THE CREW OUT! THEY SEEM TO BE HURT!

THE SHIP'S TAKING OFF!

WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?

STOP IT!

DON'T WORRY! YOU'LL GET YOUR SHIP BACK—— IN PIECES!

SPACEHAWK CIRCLES FOR ALTITUDE, THEN NOSES THE CRAFT STRAIGHT TOWARD THE FIELD, AND.....

NOW'S THE TIME TO BAIL OUT!

SPACEHAWK ZIPS BACK TO THE SKY, TO MEET HIS SPACE-SHIP....

SO LONG, KILLERS! NEXT TIME YOU COME TO THE STRATOSPHERE, BE SURE TO LOOK ME UP!

CRASH!

ACH! A BILLION MARKS IT COST, AND THERE IT GOES!

NEXT MONTH

Spacehawk AGAIN COMES TO EARTH FOR A RIP-ROARING ADVENTURE IN TARGET COMICS

Spacehawk

by Basil Wolverton

And the BULLET SHIP ....that brought VENGEANCE from the VOID

FEDERAL OFFICERS ACT TO CLOSE UP A CERTAIN SUBVERSIVE CAMP.....

THEY'RE ALL SMOKED OUT, CHIEF!

GOOD! THIS COUNTRY HAS NO PLACE FOR FOREIGN MILITARY GANGS! POST A GUARD TO SEE THAT THOSE HOODLUMS DON'T COME BACK!

JND CAMP

CLOSED
KEEP OUT

HERMAN VOGEL, LEADER OF THE ALIEN ORGANIZATION, LATER MEETS WITH SOME OF HIS MEN.....

THEY CHASED US OUT OF OUR CAMP, BUT THEY'LL NOT CHASE US OUT OF THE COUNTRY! I'LL PREPARE A NEW AND BETTER PLACE WHERE WE CAN LIVE AND SECRETLY TRAIN FOR THE DAY OF RECKONING!

WEEKS PASS, AND HERMAN VOGEL BECOMES HENRY SCOTT, WEALTHY WESTERN RANCHER...

HA! THE PIG-HEADED MEN WHO CLOSED OUR CAMP DID US A FAVOR! OUT HERE ON THIS VAST RANCH WE ARE BETTER EQUIPPED FOR OUR WORK! OUR ORGANIZATION IS GROWING IN FINE SHAPE!

AND WE'VE PLENTY OF MEN, GUNS AND AMMUNITION HIDDEN AWAY! WHEN THE TIME COMES, WE'LL BE READY TO STRIKE!

SUDDENLY— APPARENTLY OUT OF NOWHERE, A STRANGE FIGURE DROPS TO THE GROUND!

WHO ARE YOU?

I'M HERE TO TELL YOU, HERMAN VOGEL, TO CLEAR OUT — NOW!

WISE GUY, EH? WHAT RIGHT HAVE YOU TO ORDER ME OFF MY OWN PROPERTY?

I'M WORKING IN THE INTERESTS OF THE U.S. I KNOW THAT YOUR SO-CALLED GUESTS AND HIRED MEN ARE YOUR OLD GANG OF BACK-STABBERS! GET OFF THIS RANCH WITHIN AN HOUR, AND LEAVE YOUR GUNS, AMMUNITION AND SPY REPORTS BEHIND!

YEAH? WELL— NOW I'LL SHOW YOU WHAT I DO TO SNOOPERS!

APPARENTLY YOU'RE NOT IN TRIM!

DUMMKOPF! YOU'LL PAY FOR THIS!

AT A SIGNAL FROM VOGEL, A GAS-PELLET GUN IS POKED OUT THRU A WINDOW....

THERE IS A SOFT HISS. SOMETHING SPATTERS IN SPACEHAWK'S FACE, AND HE SLUMPS FORWARD...

WHEN HE REVIVES FROM THE EFFECTS OF THE KNOCK-OUT GAS, HE FINDS HIMSELF CHAINED TO THE GROUND.....

WHAT'S THE IDEA?

MAKE THE SLIGHTEST MOVE, AND YOU DIE! THAT'S THE IDEA!

THAT LINE ATTACHED TO YOUR WRIST RUNS TO A DYNAMITE SWITCH! IF YOU MOVE YOUR ARM **SO MUCH AS AN INCH** THAT BOULDER WILL BE BLASTED OVER AND YOU'LL BE CRUSHED TO A PULP!

SO LONG, MR. BIG TALK! WE'LL BE LISTENING FOR THE EXPLOSION!

VOGEL AND HIS MEN RETURN TO THE RANCH HOUSE....

BOOM

THERE SHE GOES! HE TRIED TO GET AWAY!

THAT'S THE END OF THAT MEDDLER! NO ONE WILL EVER FIND HIM BENEATH ALL THAT ROCK!

OUT ON THE PRAIRIE, THE BOULDER CRASHES OVER!

CRASH

BUT SPACEHAWK IS NOT UNDER IT! USING MENTAL TELEPATHY, HE HAS CALLED DORK, HIS SPACE-FLYING PARTNER, TO RESCUE HIM....

WOW! LOOK WHERE YOU'D BE IF YOU'D SET OFF THAT BLAST BEFORE I GOT HERE!

THANKS, DORK! AND NOW THAT I'M SUPPOSED TO BE DEAD, I'M GOING BACK AND DO A LITTLE HAUNTING!

LIFTED BY ANTI-GRAVITY POWER IN THEIR APPAREL, THE TWO MEN WHISK UP TO SPACEHAWK'S SPACE-SHIP....

INSIDE THE SHIP....

THIS IS OUR FIRST OPPORTUNITY TO BREAK IN THE NEW "BULLET" SHIP WE'VE CONSTRUCTED, DORK!

RIGHT! YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO DO SOME FANCY "HAUNTING" IN THAT RIG!

LEAVING THE LARGER SHIP AT THE FRINGE OF SPACE, SPACEHAWK AND DORK LAUNCH OUT FOR VOGEL'S RANCH.....

HERE WE GO, DORK! HANG ON!

I'M ALL SET!

RIDE 'EM, COWBOY!

YIPPEE!

ZOOOOM

CRASH

CRASH

VOGEL AND HIS HENCHMEN RUSH OUT OF DOORS, ONLY TO MEET THE STRANGE CRAFT COMING BACK!

WHAT IN CREATION IS IT?

IT'S COMING AT US!

RUN FOR THE RAID SHELTER!

THE LESSER MEMBERS POUR OUT OF THE SHATTERED BUILDINGS AND FLEE IN PANIC TO THE PRAIRIE....

THERE GO MOST OF THEM!

GOOD RIDDANCE! WE'RE AFTER VOGEL AND THE OTHERS WHO RAN INTO THAT UNDERGROUND SHELTER!

WE'RE SAFE HERE! NOW WE'LL WAIT UNTIL THAT CONTRAPTION HITS OUR ARSENAL, AND THEN WE'LL GO OUT AND PICK UP THE PIECES!

THERE'S ONE BUILDING WE DIDN'T HIT, SPACEHAWK!

IT'S A GOOD THING WE DIDN'T, DORK! THAT'S THEIR ARSENAL!

IT'S COMING BACK THIS WAY, VOGEL!

IF THERE'S ANYONE INSIDE THAT THING, I'LL PLUG THEM FULL OF HOLES!

FACING A STORM OF LEAD, SPACEHAWK HURLS A TEAR GAS BOMB.....

GASPING AND CHOKING, THE RATS SCURRY OUT OF THEIR HOLE...

A DIRTY TRICK! YOU CAN'T DO THIS TO DECENT, LAW-ABIDING CITIZENS!

I'M GOING OUT AFTER THE LEADER, DORK! YOU TAKE THE CONTROLS AND CHASE THE OTHERS OUT OF HERE!

I'LL WARM THEIR HEELS PLENTY!

SPACEHAWK LEAPS OUT IN FRONT OF VOGEL...

YOU! I THOUGHT I GOT RID OF YOU FOR GOOD!

I GAVE YOU FAIR WARNING! NOW, ARE YOU READY TO CLEAR OUT?

VOGEL YANKS OUT A KNIFE....

I'LL SEE YOU DEAD FIRST!

DROP IT!

HERE'S ANOTHER FOR WHAT YOU INTENDED TO DO TO ME!

AND ANOTHER FOR WHAT YOU INTENDED TO DO TO THE UNITED STATES!

WHAM!

YOU'LL NEVER TAKE ME ALIVE!

WHO WANTS YOU ALIVE?

BEFORE SPACEHAWK CAN REACH HIM, VOGEL RACES TO THE ARSENAL!

COME A STEP CLOSER, AND I'LL BLOW BOTH OF US TO KINGDOM COME!

DANGER HIGH EXPLOSIVE

DON'T BE MORE OF A FOOL THAN YOU ALREADY ARE!

SPACEHAWK'S HAND SLIPS TO THE ANTI-GRAVITY CONTROL ON HIS BELT....

SUDDENLY HE LEAVES THE GROUND!

- AND ZIPS UPWARD!

IN HIS SURPRISE, VOGEL DROPS THE EXPLOSIVE...

HE — HE FLEW!

THE ARSENAL GOES UP IN A TERRIFIC BLAST!

BOOM

RETURNING FROM ROUTING VOGEL'S MEN, DORK IS STARTLED BY THE EXPLOSION...

JUMPING JUPITER! IF SPACEHAWK WAS ANYWHERE NEAR THAT, HE—

AS DORK ANXIOUSLY CRUISES ABOUT, SPACEHAWK, WHO IS FLOATING IN THE SMOKE-FILLED SKY, CATCHES HOLD ON THE BULLET SHIP...

SPACEHAWK! I THOUGHT YOU WERE—

YOU CAN'T KEEP A GOOD MAN **DOWN**, SO I CAME **UP**—JUST IN TIME TO ESCAPE!

WHERE TO NOW, SPACEHAWK?

BACK TO THE SPACE-SHIP, DORK! I'VE A SET OF SORE KNUCKLES THAT NEED TREATMENT!

ANOTHER *SPACEHAWK* ADVENTURE AND THE RETURN OF DR. GORE IN NEXT MONTH'S TARGET COMICS

SPACEHAWK

And the RETURN of DR. GORE

BASIL WOLVERTON

TO FOREVER BANISH THE EVIL DR. GORE FROM THE EARTH, SPACEHAWK'S FRIEND, DORK, TAKES THE SCIENTIST TO MARS....

HERE'S THE SPOT! JUST THE PLACE FOR INDIVIDUALS WHO CAN'T GET ALONG WITH OTHER PEOPLE!

ALL RIGHT, GORE! THIS IS THE END OF THE LINE FOR YOU! YOU DON'T NEED TO BE AFRAID OF BEING ALONE HERE, BECAUSE THIS SECTION OF THE PLANET IS CRAWLING WITH OTHER KINDS OF REPTILES AND INSECTS!

BUT THE INGENIOUS SCIENTIST HAS ALREADY PICKED THE LOCKS ON HIS STEEL CUFFS, AND SUDDENLY.....

WHAM

IMBECILE! MERE CHAINS CANNOT HOLD **ME**!

A MINUTE LATER...

NOW! HOW DO **YOU** LIKE THE FEEL OF THOSE SHACKLES?

NOT BAD! THE WORST PART IS HAVING TO SIT HERE AND LOOK AT YOUR UGLY MAP!

YOUR FACE IS NO BETTER, YOU SWINE, BUT **THIS** SHOULD IMPROVE IT!

I'VE KNOCKED HIM OUT! OH, WELL,— I'LL GET THIS SHIP OFF THE GROUND WITHOUT HIS HELP!

AH, YES!-THE CONTROLS ARE SIMILAR TO THOSE IN SPACE-HAWK'S SHIP! I SHOULD BE ABLE TO PILOT THIS THING BACK TO EARTH!

WITH INEXPERIENCED HANDS AT THE CONTROLS, THE SHIP MAKES A MAD LUNGE INTO THE SKY...

—AND BARELY MISSES ONE OF THE MARTIAN MOONS....

BOOM!

BETTER LET ME HANDLE THOSE CONTROLS!

DORK REGAINS CONSCIOUSNESS...

SILENCE, PIG! I'LL MANAGE!

AND FOR FOURTEEN WEARISOME EARTH DAYS DR. GORE DOES MANAGE TO KEEP THE SHIP ON ITS COURSE....

—BUT AS IT NEARS THE EARTH—

LANDING — THAT'S GOING TO BE THE MOST DIFFICULT OPERATION!

DR. GORE LOSES CONTROL, AND THE CRAFT, PANCAKES IN A TEXAS DESERT!

CRASH!

QUITE A JOLT, BUT I'M SAFE! AS FOR THAT LONG-EARED FREAK CALLED DORK, — IF HE ISN'T ALREADY DEAD, HE SOON WILL BE!

NOW TO GET OUT OF THIS INFERNAL PLACE AND REACH MY NEAREST LABORATORY HIDEOUT!

LATER, AS SPACEHAWK CRUISES AT THE EDGE OF SPACE....

THAT OBJECT DOWN THERE ON THE DESERT LOOKS LIKE SOME KIND OF FLYING CRAFT!

SPACEHAWK LANDS....

IT'S DORK'S SHIP!

HE'S CHAINED TO THE WALL— AND UNCONSCIOUS! THIS IS DR. GORE'S WORK!

SPACEHAWK TAKES HIS OLD FRIEND TO HIS SHIP, REVIVES HIM, AND GETS HIS STORY....

I'VE MADE A MESS OF THINGS!

NEVER MIND, FELLOW! WE'LL CATCH UP WITH THAT MURDERER!

MEANWHILE, DR. GORE ARRIVES AT A RAILROAD SIDING, AND CONCEALS HIMSELF WHILE A FREIGHT TRAIN PULLS IN....

AH! FREE TRANSPORTATION!

THEN HE SNEAKS UP AND BREAKS THE COUPLING BETWEEN THE LOCOMOTIVE AND THE CARS....

HE CREEPS UP ON THE ENGINEER.....

THIS'LL TAKE CARE OF YOU!

—AND LEAPS INTO THE CAB!

GET OUT! I'M TAKING THIS LOCOMOTIVE!

911

YOU CAN'T TAKE THAT LOCOMOTIVE OUT ON THE MAIN LINE! TWO TROOP TRAINS ARE COMING THIS WAY!

TROOP TRAINS, EH? GOOD! MY MAIN OBJECT IS TO GET OUT OF HERE, BUT IF I CAN LITTER THESE TRACKS WITH THE BODIES OF UNITED STATES SOLDIERS, SO MUCH THE BETTER!

DR. GORE SENDS THE ENGINE SPEEDING ACROSS THE DESERT AND INTO A MOUNTAIN RANGE....

HERE COME THE FIRST VICTIMS! I'LL SLOW DOWN A LITTLE!

-AND HERE'S WHERE I BOW OUT!

AS THE TROOP TRAIN ROUNDS A CURVE, THE FIREMAN SEES THE LOCOMOTIVE THUNDERING TOWARD THEM!

BRAKES! GIVE HER THE BRAKES!

THE TWO ENGINES ARE ABOUT TO COLLIDE—AND THEN THE DRIVERLESS ONE LEAPS INTO THE AIR!

GOOD WORK, SPACEHAWK! YOU LOWERED YOUR SHIP'S GRAB-MAGNET JUST IN TIME TO YANK THAT ENGINE OFF THE TRACKS!

WE'RE LUCKY! IF WE HADN'T SPOTTED DR. GORE'S BALD HEAD STICKING OUT OF THAT CAB, WE WOULDN'T HAVE FOLLOWED THE LOCOMOTIVE, AND THERE'D BE A PILE OF TWISTED STEEL AND FLESH DOWN THERE RIGHT NOW!

YOU TAKE THE LOCOMOTIVE BACK WHERE IT BELONGS, DORK! I'M GOING AFTER DR. GORE!

SPACEHAWK! JUST IN TIME TO SPOIL EVERY THING!

WELL- HE WON'T GET ME — NOT IN THESE MOUNTAINS!

SPACEHAWK FLIES HIS SHIP OUT OF DR. GORE'S SIGHT — THEN LEAPS TO THE GROUND.....

A VOICE BOOMS THRU THE HILLS—

I'M COMING TO GET YOU, DR. GORE! SAVE YOURSELF SOME TROUBLE AND STAY WHERE YOU ARE!

HE — HE'S RIGHT BEHIND ME!

AT THAT MOMENT THE SOUND OF A TRAIN COMES FROM THE OTHER SIDE OF A DEEP CANYON....

WOOO-O-O! WOOO-O-O!

WHAT A BREAK! I'VE JUST TIME TO MAKE IT ACROSS THAT TRESTLE BEFORE THE TRAIN STARTS ACROSS FROM THE OTHER SIDE! AS LONG AS THE TRAIN IS ON THE TRESTLE, SPACEHAWK CAN'T GET ACROSS TO ME, AND I'LL HAVE A CHANCE TO ESCAPE!

ALL RIGHT, SPACEHAWK! FOLLOW ME--IF YOU DARE!

HALF WAY ACROSS—

MY FOOT! IT'S CAUGHT IN THE TIES!

HE'S PUT HIMSELF IN A FINE FIX! HERE COMES THE TRAIN! HE HASN'T TIME TO MAKE IT TO EITHER END!

WOO-O-O!

HELP!

HE'S A RAT, BUT I CAN'T STAND BY AND SEE HIM KILLED!

JUST AS SPACEHAWK LEAPS IN TO SNATCH THE SCIENTIST OUT OF THE TRAIN'S PATH, DR. GORE WRENCHES HIS FOOT LOOSE FROM THE TRACKS, AND TUMBLES BACKWARD!

WITH SPACEHAWK AT HIS HEELS, HE PLUMMETS INTO THE DEPTHS.....

—AND PLUNGES INTO BOILING RAPIDS!

SPLASH!

WELL—AT LEAST I TRIED!

LATER, AS SPACEHAWK RETURNS TO HIS SHIP.....

DON'T TELL ME HE ESCAPED!

HE DID— FROM ME. HE FELL OFF THAT TRESTLE AND INTO THE RAPIDS!

TOO BAD! TOO BAD! BUT NOTICE I'M NOT SHEDDING ANY TEARS!

WITH DR. GORE OUT OF THE WAY, *SPACEHAWK* GOES AFTER OTHER ENEMIES OF AMERICA IN NEXT MONTH'S TARGET COMICS

SPACEHAWK

and the BATTLING BULLET SHIPS

AS SPACEHAWK AND DORK CRUISE THE ARCTIC STRATOSPHERE, THEIR ELECTROSCOPE REVEALS A FLEET OF BOMBERS FLYING WEST FROM EUROPE.....

THOSE ARE ENEMY BOMBERS, SPACEHAWK!

AND HEADING FOR ICELAND! THIS IS WHAT WE'VE BEEN EXPECTING — AN ATTACK ON AMERICAN TROOPS STATIONED THERE!

WE'VE GOT TO STOP THEM, DORK! WE MAY BE ABLE TO DO IT WITH OUR BULLET SHIPS! WE'LL FLY IN ONE, AND PILOT THE OTHER BY RADIO!

A GOOD IDEA! I'LL HAVE THE EQUIPMENT INTO THOSE BABIES BEFORE YOU KNOW IT!

by Basil Wolverton

MINUTES LATER—

ALL SET, SPACEHAWK!

GOOD! WE'LL LEAVE THIS ROBOT PILOT AT THE CONTROLS, AND GET GOING!

THE BULLET SHIPS SLIP OUT OF THE SPACE CRAFT.....

MILES BELOW — INSIDE THE PLANE OF THE COMMANDER OF THE ENEMY BOMBERS.....

ICELAND SHOULD BE VISIBLE ANY MINUTE NOW!

WE'LL SWEEP IN THERE AND CLEAN OUT THOSE AMERICANS BEFORE THEY REALIZE WHAT'S GOING ON!

SUDDENLY, SOMETHING FLASHES PAST THE COMMANDER'S SHIP!

WHAT — WHAT'S THAT?

IT'S CIRCLING BACK ON US! IT'S BOUND TO STRIKE ONE OF OUR PLANES!

SPACEHAWK'S BULLET SHIP DOES STRIKE, ...AND WITH ALL THE FORCE OF A METEOR!

CRASH

THE FIRST VICTIM STREAKS TO ITS GRAVE IN THE SEA!

STRIKE ONE, AND THAT BOMBER IS OUT!

HANG ON! WE'RE GOING TO CLIP A FEW MORE WINGS AND TAIL FEATHERS!

FIRE, YOU GUNNERS! BLAST THAT THING OUT OF HERE!

BUT THE BULLETS ONLY GLANCE OFF THE TOUGH LITTLE SHIP, WHICH DARTS IN AND OUT, SMASHING WINGS AND TAIL ASSEMBLIES AT EVERY TURN!

CRASH!

SCATTER OUT, YOU FOOLS, OR WE'LL ALL GO DOWN!

THEY'RE BREAKING FORMATION! LOOKS AS THOUGH THEY'RE ALMOST LICKED!

NOT YET!

WE'VE GOT TO KEEP HAMMERING AWAY UNTIL EVERY ONE IS PUT OUT OF ACTION, DORK!

ZOOM!

SPACEHAWK STRIKES AGAIN, BUT THIS TIME HE RAMS A BOMB.....

BANG!

—AND THE BULLET SHIP PLUNGES FROM THE SKY!

THE ANTI-GRAVITY ELEMENT IS WRECKED! ONLY A COUPLE OF MINUTES BEFORE WE HIT THE SEA! GRAB THE OTHER END OF THE RADIO CONTROLLER, AND BAIL OUT!

RIGHT!

JUST IN TIME!

SPLASH

THAT'S THE END OF OUR TROUBLE!

BUT CONSIDER THE BOMBERS WE'VE LOST!

GET BACK INTO FORMATION! IT'S UP TO US TO ATTACK ICELAND, REGARDLESS OF OUR LOSSES!

SUSPENDED BY THEIR ANTI-GRAVITY BELTS, SPACEHAWK AND DORK HOVER OVER THE SEA. BY MEANS OF THE RADIO CONTROLLER, THEY SUMMON THE OTHER BULLET SHIP FROM THE STRATOSPHERE....

LOOK!! ANOTHER ONE!

ACH! THIS IS TERRIBLE!

BUT IN ITS FIRST SWOOP, THE SECOND BULLET SHIP WRECKS ITS ROCKET BARREL!

CRACK!

THAT'S THAT! WE MAY AS WELL DUMP THIS THING IN THE OCEAN!

TOO BAD! SOME OF THE BOMBERS ARE BOUND TO REACH THEIR DESTINATION, NOW THAT WE'RE POWERLESS TO STOP THEM!

SPLASH!

5

MEANWHILE—AT THE AMERICAN BASE IN ICELAND....

DO YOU HEAR SOMETHING?

PLANES ARE APPROACHING FROM THE WEST! **SOUND THE ALARM!**

AMERICAN FIGHTER SHIPS TAKE TO THE AIR.....

LOOK!-COMING TO MEET US!

THE DOGS! WE'LL HAVE TO RUN FOR IT OR BE SHOT DOWN!

THE BOMBERS TURN TAIL, AND THE AMERICAN SHIPS GIVE CHASE!

THE COMMANDER'S SHIP, WITH ITS HEAD START, IS THE ONLY ONE TO ESCAPE....

HA! THAT'S GIVING THEM THE SLIP!

MEANWHILE, SPACEHAWK AND DORK SHOOT INTO THE SKY, AND WATCH THE BATTLE FROM A DISTANCE...

THEY BAGGED ALL BUT ONE BOMBER, AND IT'S HEADING BACK THIS WAY!

NO WONDER IT GAVE UP! THOSE AMERICAN SHIPS ARE PLENTY TOUGH!

LOOKS LIKE TWO MEN SUSPENDED IN THE SKY! CAN IT BE SOME KIND OF A TRICK?

TRICK OR NO TRICK, WE'LL SHOOT THEM DOWN!

THEY SEE US, SPACEHAWK!

YES! AND THEY'RE COMING FOR US!

AS THE BOMBER DIVES, SPACEHAWK AND DORK ZIP UPWARD!

IF THEY WEREN'T GOING SO FAST, WE COULD RIP 'EM OPEN WITH THESE FLAME PISTOLS!

THEY MUST BE GAS-INFLATED DUMMIES, BUT YET THEY JUMPED UPWARD AND FIRED ON US! SWING AROUND AND GO AFTER THEM AGAIN! WE'LL FIND OUT WHAT MAKES THEM TICK!

THEY'RE COMING BACK!

AND THIS TIME THEY'RE GOING TO GET A SURPRISE!

THEY- THEY'RE HUMAN! I CAN SEE THEM MOVING! WHAT KEEPS THEM UP?

AS THE BOMBER SWEEPS AT THEM, SPACEHAWK HURLS HIS PISTOL INTO ONE PROPELLER, AND DORK HURLS HIS AT THE OTHER! THEN BOTH AGAIN DODGE OUT OF THE PLANE'S PATH!

GOOD PITCHING!

OUR PROPELLERS ARE SHATTERED! WE'RE FALLING!

NO TIME TO DROP OUR BOMBS NOW! HIT THE WATER EASY, OR WE'RE LOST!

BUT THE PLANE HITS TOO HARD, AND THE BOMBS EXPLODE!

BOOM

THE LAST BOMBER! NOW WE CAN GO BACK TO OUR SPACE SHIP!

WE DIDN'T DO SO BADLY AFTER ALL! AT LEAST WE GOT IN THE LAST LICK!

NEXT MONTH

SPACEHAWK

BATTLES TO SAVE A HUGE POWER DAM... IN

TARGET COMICS

SPACEHAWK!

AND THE CASE OF THE BLACK AVENGER

BOOM!

THE DREAD SHADOW OF THE BLACK AVENGERS, A SECRET BAND OF ALIEN SABOTEURS, CROSSES A GREAT POWER DAM, AND---

SPACEHAWK, MAN FROM SPACE, LOOKS DOWN FROM THE STRATOSPHERE...

GREAT GALAXIES! ONE OF AMERICA'S LARGEST POWER DAMS HAS BEEN BLOWN UP!

Basil Wolverton

UNDER COVER OF DARKNESS, SPACEHAWK AND HIS COMPANION, DORK, DESCEND TO INVESTIGATE.....

THERE'S THE ANSWER, DORK — SMEARED ON THE REMAINS OF THE POWER HOUSE!

A DAGGER! — THE SIGN OF THE BLACK AVENGERS!

LATER, AS SPACEHAWK'S SHIP DARTS THRU THE STRATOSPHERE...

DORK, I'M AFRAID THAT THOSE MURDEROUS BLACK AVENGERS WILL TRY TO WRECK OTHER DAMS — POSSIBLY THE BIG ONE NEARING COMPLETION AT THUNDER MOUNTAIN! WE'LL GO THERE, AND I'LL DO A LITTLE SLEUTHING!

JUST BEFORE DAWN, SPACEHAWK, DRESSED IN WORKING CLOTHES, DRIFTS DOWN ON THUNDER MOUNTAIN DAM....

HE CONCEALS HIMSELF UNTIL THE DAY CREW COMES ON DUTY, — THEN MINGLES WITH THE MEN...

AS HE WORKS, SPACEHAWK'S KEEN MIND PENETRATES THE MINDS OF THE WORKMEN...

HMM! THERE'S NO THOUGHT OF SABOTAGE IN THE MINDS OF THESE FELLOWS!

TROLAND, THE FOREMAN, SUSPICIOUSLY EYES SPACEHAWK.....

HOW'D THAT MAN GET IN HERE? I DON'T REMEMBER HIM!

YOU THERE! WHEN DID YOU COME ON THIS JOB?

JUST THIS MORNING!

APPARENTLY SATISFIED, TROLAND WALKS AWAY....

THERE IS A MAN TO BE WATCHED, EVEN THOUGH HE IS THE FOREMAN! HIS MIND IS HARBORING SOME EVIL SCHEME!

MY CHANCE HAS COME! I'LL SWING THE BLAME. FOR WHAT I'M ABOUT TO DO ON THIS NEW MAN! HE'S A PERFECT HUSKY-BUT-DUMB TYPE!

THE FOREMAN MAKES CERTAIN HE IS ALONE, AND.....

FIRST— I'LL PUT THE SIGN OF THE **BLACK AVENGERS** ON THE WALL OF THIS GENERATOR BUILDING! IT'LL GIVE THEM PLENTY OF CAUSE FOR EXCITEMENT!

NOW TO GET DOWN INSIDE THE DAM AND PREPARE THE POWERFUL BOMB I'VE HIDDEN THERE!

CORRIDOR Nº 5

THE OMEN OF IMPENDING DESTRUCTION IS SOON DISCOVERED....

LOOK! THE SIGN OF THE BLACK AVENGERS— ON THIS DAM!

THAT MEANS IT'S DOOMED!

WE'D BETTER REPORT THIS!

A SIREN SCREAMS, AND GUARDS SHOUT ORDERS THRU LOUDSPEAKERS....

DROP YOUR WORK! EVERY ONE GET OFF THE DAM AT ONCE!

DOWN INSIDE THE STRUCTURE....

THERE! THE TIMER IS SET! WITHIN A FEW MINUTES THERE'LL BE A BEAUTIFUL GASH IN THUNDER MOUNTAIN DAM!

THEN TROLAND APPEARS ABOVE, POINTS AT SPACEHAWK, AND SHOUTS.....

THAT MAN THERE!—HE'S A STRANGER! HE'S PROBABLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE MARK OF THE BLACK AVENGERS!

GUARDS SEIZE SPACEHAWK, WHOSE POWERFUL MIND NOW READS THE TRUTH IN THE FOREMAN'S BRAIN...

COME ON! YOU'VE SOME QUESTIONS TO ANSWER, BUD!

THERE'S YOUR MAN! HE HAS PLANTED EXPLOSIVES IN THIS DAM!

WHY, YOU LYING SABOTEUR!—I'LL—

SPACEHAWK JERKS AWAY AND CHARGES AT TROLAND...

WELL—IF YOU GUARDS WON'T DO SOMETHING ABOUT HIM, I WILL!

TROLAND FLEES, BUT HIS NEAREST AVENUE OF ESCAPE IS BACK DOWN INSIDE THE DAM....

AFTER THEM, MEN! DON'T LET THAT NEW MAN GET AWAY!

TROLAND TRIES TO CIRCLE BACK UP TO THE TOP OF THE DAM, BUT SPACEHAWK BLOCKS HIM AT EVERY TURN....

I CAN'T KEEP THIS UP! THAT BOMB WILL SOON EXPLODE!

HOW DID HE KNOW MY SECRET? I MUST SLIP BY HIM, SOMEHOW!

FRANTIC, THE SABOTEUR RUSHES BACK TO HIS CONCEALED BOMB....

I'LL HAVE TO SET THE CLOCK AHEAD, AND GIVE MYSELF TIME TO GET OUT OF HERE!

SUDDENLY—

ALL RIGHT, MR. BLACK AVENGER!— I'LL TAKE CARE OF THAT!

HUH!?

IGNORING TROLAND, SPACEHAWK RACES AWAY....

I'LL GET HIM LATER! RIGHT NOW I MUST DESTROY THIS THING!

HE RUNS TO THE RIM OF THE DAM, AND HURLS THE BOMB OUT INTO THE STREAM BELOW, WHERE IT HARMLESSLY EXPLODES!

WOW! THAT BOMB WAS PLENTY STRONG! IT COULD HAVE RUINED THIS WHOLE STRUCTURE!

BOOM

TROLAND COMES UP FROM BELOW....

SEE, GUARD? HE ALMOST BLEW UP THE DAM! GET HIM!

SPACEHAWK BOUNDS TOWARD THE GUARD...

YOU'D SHOOT ME FOR SAVING THE DAM, EH? HOW MANY TIMES MUST I TELL YOU HE'S THE RAT YOU SHOULD BE AFTER!

TROLAND SCRAMBLES UP INTO THE CAB OF A CRANE....

I'LL FIX HIM!

SPACEHAWK DODGES.....

YOU WANT TO PLAY, EH? THEN I'LL COME UP THERE AND PLAY WITH YOU!

THERE ARE MORE WRENCHES UP HERE! IF YOU PUT A FOOT ON THAT LADDER, I'LL BREAK YOUR SKULL!

BANG!

SPACEHAWK LEAPS UP THRU THE BOTTOM OF THE CAB!

OKAY! THEN I WON'T PUT A FOOT ON THE LADDER!

WHAT THE —!?

CRASH!

IN HIS SURPRISE, TROLAND TUMBLES OUT ON TO THE CRANE'S ARM....

NOW IT'S FOLLOW-THE-LEADER, IS IT? GOOD! I HAVE YOU JUST WHERE I WANT YOU!

GET BACK, OR I'LL SLASH YOU TO RIBBONS!

TROLAND WHIPS OUT A KNIFE....

MAYBE YOU WILL!

DON'T FIRE! YOU MAY HIT TROLAND!

AS SPACEHAWK MOVES IN, TROLAND LASHES OUT WITH HIS KNIFE! SPACEHAWK DODGES — AND LOSES HIS BALANCE!

SPACEHAWK PLUNGES DOWN TO THE BOILING WATERS AT THE FOOT OF THE DAM —

THEN MANAGES TO SNAP ON THE ANTI-GRAVITY CONTROL ON HIS BELT, AND ZIP BACK UP!

THAT WAS TOO CLOSE!

HA! THAT'S THE END OF YOU, YOU MEDDLING IDIOT!.

I MUST BE SEEING THINGS! HE'S FLYING BACK UP!

SPACEHAWK LEAPS ON THE CRANE, AND....

WHOP!

NOW IT'S YOUR TURN! AND YOU WON'T COME BACK!

TROLAND CATAPULTS SO FAR BACK THAT HE LANDS ON TOP OF THE DAM.....

GUARDS RUSH TO HIM.....

LOOK! THE MARK OF THE BLACK AVENGERS IS TATTOOED ON HIS BACK!

THEN HE WAS THE GUILTY ONE!

DO YOU BELIEVE ME NOW?

COME ON DOWN! WE WANT TO KNOW WHO YOU ARE!

TO THE AMAZEMENT OF ONLOOKERS, SPACEHAWK FLOATS INTO THE SKY!

SORRY,— BUT I MUST GO! BE CAREFUL WHOM YOU HIRE FROM NOW ON!

Next Month

SPACEHAWK DARES TO STRIKE AT A GIANT MACHINE THAT COMES TO CRUSH THE CITIES OF AMERICA in TARGET COMICS

SPACEHAWK

AND THE BLAZING DEATH

by Basil Wolverton

ONCE MORE THE FIENDISH DR. GORE RETURNS — AGAIN TO POUR OUT HIS DIABOLIC HATRED ON AMERICA.....AND SPACEHAWK!

SPACEHAWK DOES NOT KNOW THAT DR. GORE, WHO FELL INTO THE BOILING RAPIDS OF A TEXAS RIVER, MANAGED TO FIGHT HIS WAY TO SAFETY AT A POINT DOWNSTREAM FROM WHERE SPACEHAWK STOOD AT THE TIME.....

SPURRED ON BY DESIRE FOR REVENGE, THE SCIENTIST HEADS FOR FREEDOM.....

I'LL GET BACK TO ONE OF MY LABORATORY-HIDEOUTS, AND THEN—

MONTHS LATER, AS SPACEHAWK AND DORK CRUISE THRU THE STRATOSPHERE IN THEIR SPACE-SHIP....

FLASH! VIOLENT ELECTRICAL STORMS IN THE GULF OF MEXICO HAVE JUST SUNK THE SIXTH AMERICAN SHIP WITHIN FIVE HOURS!

SIX SHIPS! THAT MUST BE SOME STORM!

I THINK WE'D BETTER LOOK INTO THIS, DORK!

SPACEHAWK'S SHIP DIVES EARTHWARD....

DELICATE INSTRUMENTS LEAD IT DIRECTLY TO THE ELECTRICALLY CHARGED AREA OVER THE GULF.....

THE GAUGES INDICATE THAT THIS IS THE SPOT, BUT I DON'T SEE MUCH OF A STORM! NO WIND, AND ONLY ONE LONE CLOUD!

BUT IN THE NEXT MOMENT EAR-SPLITTING THUNDER SHATTERS THE STILLNESS AS TONGUES OF FIRE CRACKLE DOWN FROM THAT ONE CLOUD!

BOOM!

CRASH!

ONE OF THE BOLTS SMASHES INTO A LONE FREIGHTER.....

BANG!

THE LIGHTNING HIT THAT SHIP! IT'S GOING DOWN!

THERE'S ANOTHER SHIP JUST OVER THE HORIZON! RADIO IT TO PICK UP THE SURVIVORS!

THAT WASN'T NATURAL LIGHTNING! SEE — THAT CLOUD IS MOVING IN ANOTHER DIRECTION NOW! I'LL WAGER THERE'S SOME SORT OF APPARATUS INSIDE IT BUILT PURPOSELY TO SINK AMERICAN SHIPS! I'M GOING TO FIND OUT!

DORK SWINGS THE SHIP UP OVER THE CLOUD, AND SPACEHAWK LEAPS OUT....

HE PLUNGES INTO THE MIST....

BY MEANS OF HIS ANTI-GRAVITY BELT HE RETARDS HIS FALL, AND GENTLY LANDS ON A BROAD EXPANSE OF METAL....

I WAS RIGHT! THIS IS ONLY A SYNTHETIC CLOUD— A SCREEN TO HIDE SOMETHING INSIDE IT! NOW TO FIND OUT WHAT THAT IS!

INSIDE THE FLOATING STRUCTURE, THE SINISTER DR. GORE GLOATS OVER HIS LATEST TRIUMPH!

HA! ANOTHER VICTIM! MY LIGHTNING GUNS HAVE PROVED SUCCESSFUL ON SHIPS! NOW TO MOVE IN OVER THE CONTINENT AND SHOCK AMERICA WITH A MOST TERRIBLE SURPRISE!

SUDDENLY

SPACEHAWK!

SO IT'S YOU! I THOUGHT I'D SEEN THE LAST OF YOUR UGLY FACE, BUT HERE I FIND YOU UP TO YOUR OLD TRICKS!

CRASH!

YOU STOLE MY SECRETS OF ANTI-GRAVITY AND ROCKET POWER, DR. GORE. I'M NOT GOING TO LET YOU CONTINUE USING THEM TO DESTROY LIFE AND PROPERTY! THIS IS YOUR LAST VENTURE IN WHOLESALE MURDER!

YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND! I'VE CHANGED! RIGHT NOW I'M CONDUCTING AN EXPERIMENT TO BENEFIT MANKIND!

THAT'S A LIE! ALREADY YOU'VE SENT SEVEN SHIPS TO THE BOTTOM WITH THIS FLOATING POWER PLANT OF YOURS! DO YOU CALL **THAT** AN EXPERIMENT?

I — I DIDN'T KNOW THERE WERE SHIPS BELOW ME! I-

IN A LAST FRANTIC EFFORT TO SAVE HIMSELF, DR. GORE SNATCHES AT A SWITCH, AND —

HA! HA! YOU SHOULDN'T GET SO CLOSE TO MY LIGHTNING APPARATUS! NOW **I'LL** TAKE THE UPPER HAND!

CRACKLE

MY LEGS! MY **ARMS**! THEY WON'T MOVE! THEY'RE **PARALYZED**!

IT'S A WONDER YOU'RE NOT DEAD! BUT PERHAPS IT'S BETTER YOU'RE NOT— **JUST YET**! NOW I CAN SHOW YOU WHAT I'M GOING TO DO, AND YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO INTERFERE! THEN **I'LL TOSS YOU OUT OF HERE!**

NOW JUST SIT THERE AND WATCH WHILE I BLAST EVERY CITY ON THE ATLANTIC SEABOARD WITH MY LIGHTNING BOLTS — THANKS TO THE SCIENTIFIC KNOWLEDGE I'VE GLEANED FROM **YOU**!

MUCH AS I LOVE YOUR COMPANY, MY DEAR SPACEHAWK, I MUST LEAVE YOU FOR A FEW MOMENTS WHILE I CHECK MY PROPULSION ROCKETS! I TRUST YOU WILL PARDON ME!

WITH DR. GORE GONE, SPACEHAWK'S MIGHTY MIND STRUGGLES TO REGAIN CONTROL OF HIS SHOCKED MUSCLES AND NERVES....

I MUST OVERCOME THIS PARALYSIS! I **MUST**!

AGONIZING SECONDS PASS THEN SPACEHAWK'S SUPER-HUMAN EFFORTS BRING LIFE BACK TO HIS LIMBS...

SUCCESS! I CAN MOVE AGAIN!

NOW— IF ONLY I CAN ALTER THIS COMPASS BEFORE HE RETURNS!

THERE! IT'S DONE! HERE HE COMES! I'LL PRETEND I'M STILL PARALYZED!

AH! EVERYTHING IS IN ORDER! WITHIN A SHORT WHILE WE'LL BE OVER LAND! THEN I'LL LET YOU PEEK DOWN THRU MY FOG EYE,— A LITTLE INSTRUMENT BY MEANS OF WHICH I CAN SEE THRU THIS VAPOR ABOUT US;—AND WATCH THE RESULTS OF A FEW MAN-MADE ELECTRICAL STORMS! YOU'LL REALIZE, THEN, HOW I'LL SOON BECOME THE MASTER OF NATIONS!

SPACEHAWK GETS TO HIS FEET....

HUH?!— WHAT THE—

VERY INTERESTING, DR. GORE, BUT I MUST BE LEAVING NOW!

FOOL ME, WILL YOU? I'LL KILL YOU FOR THAT!

SPACEHAWK FLINGS OUT A POWERFUL ARM, AND DR. GORE FLIES BACKWARD!

THUMP!

UH!

NOW! NOW! NO SENSE IN GETTING ROUGH! WHY SHOULD WE BATTLE? NEITHER OF US SEEMS TO BE ABLE TO DESTROY THE OTHER!

DR. GORE GETS TO HIS FEET....

HE'S GONE! BUT WHY DID HE ACT SO STRANGELY? HE COULD HAVE KILLED ME — BUT HE DIDN'T EVEN TRY!

EITHER HE'S UP TO SOMETHING, OR HIS MIND WAS AFFECTED BY THAT SHOCK! IF HE COMES AROUND AGAIN, I'LL FINISH HIM!

LATER

AH! NO INTERFERENCE YET! ACCORDING TO MY INSTRUMENTS, I SHOULD BE ONLY A FEW MILES FROM NEW ORLEANS— —THE FIRST CITY ON MY LIST! ALL THEY'LL SEE IS A HEAVY CLOUD OVERHEAD— —AND THEN I'LL WIPE THEM OFF THE MAP!

SUDDENLY THE CRAFT LURCHES VIOLENTLY!

I'VE STRUCK SOMETHING!

BOOM!

AS THE FLYING POWER HOUSE CRUMPLES AND FALLS, DR. GORE SEIZES AN ANTI-GRAVITY ELEMENT, AND REMAINS SUSPENDED....

THE CLOUD SCREEN CLEARS AWAY, AND....

I'VE STRUCK A MOUNTAIN! I DIDN'T KNOW THERE WERE MOUNTAINS LIKE THIS ON THE LOUISIANA COAST!

SPACEHAWK SWEEPS OUT OF THE SKY!

YOU! - YOU'RE SOMEHOW TO BLAME FOR THIS!

RIGHT! I THREW YOUR COMPASS OFF WHEN YOU WEREN'T AROUND! YOU'RE OVER THE SIERRA MADRE MOUNTAINS OF EASTERN MEXICO! — — NOT OVER THE UNITED STATES!

DO SOMETHING! YOU CAN'T JUST LET ME HANG HERE LIKE THIS!

CERTAINLY NOT! I'LL SEE THAT YOU GET DOWN!

SPACEHAWK SIGNALS DORK, WHO COMES OUT OF THE SKY WITH THE SPACE-SHIP'S BLAST CANNON BLAZING AT DR. GORE....

CRACK!

HELP!

DORK SHOOTS PART OF THE ANTI-GRAVITY ELEMENT AWAY...

HELP! THIS IS MURDER!

YOU LIKE TO SHOOT BOLTS OF FIRE AT PEOPLE! NOW HOW DO YOU LIKE YOUR OWN MEDICINE?

DORK COMES IN AGAIN, AND THIS TIME SHATTERS THE ANTI-GRAVITY ELEMENT....

OW!

SAVE ME!

NO ANTI-GRAVITY BELT, EH? THIS IS SERIOUS! FEEL LIKE GIVING UP?

THE SCIENTIST, NOW UNCONSCIOUS FROM FEAR, IS ABOUT TO BE DASHED TO HIS DEATH WHEN SPACEHAWK GRABS HIM....

CAN'T LET EVEN A RAT-LIKE YOU DIE LIKE THAT!

SPACEHAWK PLACES DR. GORE ON THE PEAK OF A CRAG, WHERE HE REVIVES....

WHERE AM I?

YOU'RE SAFE, AND I'M GOING TO TAKE YOU TO A PLACE WHERE YOU'LL BE EVEN SAFER— BEHIND BARS!

FURIOUS, DR. GORE LEAPS UP AND CHARGES!

NO YOU WON'T!

SPACEHAWK SAVES HIMSELF BY SNAPPING ON THE POWER IN HIS ANTI-GRAVITY BELT, BUT DR. GORE PLUNGES ON INTO THE YAWNING CHASM!

EEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEYAAA

THE TIME HAS COME FOR US TO GIVE EVERY OUNCE OF OUR SUPPORT TO THE UNITED STATES, DORK! I'VE DECIDED TO GO TO WASHINGTON AND LEND MY SERVICES! YOU STAY WITH MY SHIP AND CARRY ON FROM THE SKY!

I'LL DO MY BEST, SPACEHAWK!

SPACEHAWK

and his SUPER DIVE BOMBER

by Basil Wolverton

SPACEHAWK LEAPS OUT OF HIS SPACE-SHIP AND DROPS TO THE CAPITOL!

HIS APPROACH IS SO SWIFT NO ONE SEES HIM UNTIL HE IS IN THE OFFICE OF A HIGH OFFICIAL....

PARDON MY RUDE MANNER OF ENTRANCE, SIR, BUT IT IS THE ONLY WAY I COULD COME TO SEE YOU AT ONCE WITHOUT CAUSING SUSPICION OR EXCITEMENT! I AM SPACEHAWK!

YOU—SPACEHAWK? YOU'LL HAVE TO GIVE ME IMMEDIATE PROOF OF THAT STATEMENT, OR YOU'LL SOON FIND YOURSELF IN VERY GRAVE CIRCUMSTANCES!

DO YOU KNOW OF ANY OTHER PERSON WHO CAN SUSPEND HIMSELF IN MID-AIR WITH AN ANTI-GRAVITY BELT— LIKE THIS?

AMAZING! THAT'S PROOF ENOUGH FOR ME! I'M HONORED TO MEET YOU, SPACEHAWK, AND I WANT TO THANK YOU FOR ALL YOU'VE DONE FOR THE UNITED STATES!

THAT'S WHY I'M HERE — TO HELP THE NATION BUILD MACHINERY THAT WILL INCORPORATE SOME OF THE ADVANCED SCIENTIFIC KNOWLEDGE I CAN GIVE THE GOVERNMENT!

GOOD! WHAT DO YOU HAVE IN MIND?

I'D LIKE TO SUPERINTEND THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW AND DIFFERENT TYPE OF DIVE BOMBER,— A ROCKET-DRIVEN PLANE THAT WILL BE MUCH FASTER AND DEADLIER THAN ANYTHING YET BUILT!

IF YOU CAN DO THAT, SPACEHAWK, YOU'LL WIN THE EVERLASTING GRATITUDE OF THE WHOLE NATION! THE FACILITIES OF OUR GOVERNMENT AND FACTORIES ARE AT YOUR DISPOSAL!

A FEW DAYS LATER, IN A LARGE DEFENSE FACTORY, SPACEHAWK DIRECTS THE BUILDING OF THE SECRET, NEW BOMBER.....

MEANWHILE, NOT FAR AWAY....

IT'S TRUE! TWO WORKMEN OVER AT THE PLANT ADMITTED THAT SPACEHAWK IS ACTUALLY HELPING TO CONSTRUCT A NEW TYPE OF DIVE BOMBER!

THAT IS BAD — BUT NOT TOO BAD! IF WE CAN GET THE PLANS FOR THAT SHIP, SPACEHAWK WILL BE HELPING **OUR** GOVERNMENT, TOO! DID YOU PAY THE TWO WORKMEN FOR THIS INFORMATION?

YES!

THEN THEY CAN BE BOUGHT AGAIN! CHECK UP ON THEM, AND IF THINGS LOOK ALL RIGHT, TELL THEM YOU'LL GIVE FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS FOR THE PLANS!

NEXT DAY THE FOREIGN AGENT AGAIN MEETS THE TWO FACTORY EMPLOYEES, MARTELL AND VAUGHN...

LISTEN, MEN! I'M PREPARED TO GIVE YOU FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS TO SPLIT BETWEEN YOU IF YOU CAN PRODUCE THE PLANS FOR SPACEHAWK'S DIVE BOMBER!

FIVE THOUSAND! **WHEW!**

WE'LL TRY, BUT IT'S RISKY BUSINESS!

HERE'S A HUNDRED APIECE FOR A STARTER! AND GET THIS — IF THERE'S ANY MONKEY BUSINESS BETWEEN YOU AND THE LAW, **YOU'LL REGRET IT!**

LATER, MARTELL AND VAUGHN, WHO, IN THEIR TRUSTED CAPACITIES AS TANK TESTERS, ARE ALLOWED IN MOST DEPARTMENTS OF THE PLANT, LOOK IN ON THE NEW DIVE BOMBER.....

LOOKS AS THOUGH IT'S NEARLY COMPLETED! WE'LL HAVE TO ACT TONIGHT!

THERE'S ONLY ONE SHIFT WORKING ON IT — THE DAY SHIFT! THAT'LL GIVE US A CHANCE TO DO SOMETHING AFTER DARK!

AFTER WORK, MARTELL AND VAUGHN CONCEAL THEMSELVES NEAR THE BOMBER....

10PM

IT'S QUIETED DOWN AROUND HERE! LET'S GO!

LET'S SEARCH THAT LITTLE SHOP-ROOM! THE PLANS ARE PROBABLY THERE!

WE'RE IN LUCK! THE PLACE ISN'T LOCKED!

NOTHING IN HERE BUT TOOLS!

COME ON! WE'LL SEARCH THE PLANE!

SH-H-HH! WE'LL HAVE A HARD TIME EXPLAINING THIS IF WE GET CAUGHT!

LOOK! THOSE MUST BE THE ANTI-GRAVITY UNITS WE'VE HEARD ABOUT! IF WE CAN DISCOVER HOW THEY FUNCTION, WE'LL HAVE SOMETHING ALMOST AS VALUABLE AS THE PLANS — AND WE'LL DEMAND **MORE** THAN FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS FOR **THAT** INFORMATION!

HERE'S A SCREWDRIVER! WE'LL HAVE A LOOK!

A VOICE COMES OUT OF THE DARKNESS....

I WOULDN'T TOUCH THAT IF I WERE YOU!

HUH?

DOUSE THE LIGHT!

IT MUST BE ONE OF THE WATCHMEN! GRAB HIM AND DON'T LET HIM YELL, OR WE'RE SUNK!

MARTELL AND VAUGHN LUNGE AT THE DIM FIGURE — AND BUMP INTO A DISASTROUS SURPRISE!

OW!

OUCH!

A LIGHT COMES ON, AND—

SPACEHAWK!

I WAS AFRAID SOMEONE WOULD TRY THIS, SO I'VE BEEN STAYING HERE NIGHTS!

LET US GO, SPACEHAWK! WE WEREN'T GOING TO HARM ANYTHING!

WE WERE JUST CURIOUS!

WHERE ARE YOU TAKING US? PLEASE DON'T TURN US OVER TO THE FACTORY POLICE!

OKAY, YOU RATS! I'LL GRANT YOU THAT REQUEST!

OVER THE FENCE YOU GO! DON'T LET THIS HAPPEN AGAIN, OR THERE'LL BE PLENTY OF TROUBLE!

RIP!

LATER

I JUST TALKED WITH OUR FACTORY STOOGES! THEY BUNGLED THE JOB! SPACEHAWK HIMSELF KICKED THEM OUT!

THE FOOLS! WE SHOULD DISPOSE OF THEM BEFORE THEY ATTEMPT TO EXPOSE US! BUT PERHAPS THERE IS YET A JOB THEY CAN DO FOR US — GET RID OF SPACEHAWK! HE'S TOO MUCH OF A MENACE TO THE AXIS NATIONS!

THAT SHOULDN'T BE TOO DIFFICULT! THEY'RE IN A VENGEFUL MOOD!

THEN OFFER THEM TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS TO DO IT IN ANY WAY THEY CAN!

NEXT WEEK...

THIS IS OUR CHANCE TO GET THAT TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS! SPACEHAWK IS TESTING HIS NEW DIVE BOMBER TODAY, AND WE'RE TESTING THIS NEW TYPE TANK AND ITS GUNS! WE'LL MOW HIM DOWN WHEN HE COMES OUT ON THE FIELD, AND ACT AS THOUGH IT WERE AN ACCIDENT!

ROLL IT OUT, MEN! IT'S ALL SET FOR A TRY-OUT!

THERE HE IS! PULL THE TRIGGER, AND I'LL SWING THE TANK AROUND!

MARTELL SWINGS THE TANK SWIFTLY ABOUT AS THOUGH IT IS OUT OF CONTROL, AND BULLETS FAN ACROSS THE ADJOINING LANDING FIELD!

ON YOUR STOMACHS!

BANG!

WHING!

BANG!

WHING!

BANG!

WE GOT HIM! HE FELL!

YEAH – BUT IT LOOKS LIKE WE MOWED DOWN A LOT OF OTHERS, TOO! WE'LL NEVER GET AWAY WITH THIS!

FORTUNATELY, NO ONE HAS BEEN HIT. SPACEHAWK'S KEEN EYES CATCH SIGHT OF THE FACES PEERING OUT OF THE TANK.....

THAT'S THE SAME PAIR I TOSSED OUT OF THE PLANT! NOW THEY'RE TRYING TO BUMP ME OFF!

IF IT'S A FIGHT YOU TWO WANT, YOU'RE GOING TO GET IT! YOU HAVE THE TANK! I HAVE THIS PLANE! HERE GOES!

HE'S COMING AFTER US!

WE'VE GOT TO ESCAPE IN THIS TANK!

SPACEHAWK'S SHIP LEAPS INTO THE AIR!

HERE HE COMES!

FIRE ON HIM— QUICK! SHOOT HIM DOWN!

VAUGHN RAKES THE BOMBER WITH A FURIOUS FLURRY OF BULLETS, BUT THE TOUGH PLASTIC ARMOR DEFLECTS THEM!

BANG! BANG! BANG! BANG! BANG!

DON'T BE DISCOURAGED, TRAITORS! I'M COMING BACK AFTER MORE!

IF WE CAN ONLY MAKE IT TO THE WOODS, WE'LL HAVE A CHANCE OF GETTING AWAY!

BUT SPACEHAWK WHEELS AND COMES IN TO RAM THE TANK WITH POWERFUL THREE-INCH SHELLS!

ONE MORE ATTACK LIKE THAT AND WE'RE FINISHED!

HE'S GAINING ALTITUDE! SURELY HE'S NOT GOING TO DROP A BOMB!

AND THAT IS JUST WHAT SPACEHAWK INTENDS TO DO! HE NOSES DOWN, AND—

DROPS A BOMB DIRECTLY IN THE TANK'S PATH!

BOOM!

CONFUSED, MARTELL HEADS THE MACHINE TOWARD A CLIFF....

LOOK OUT!

SPACEHAWK LANDS..

COME OUT OF THERE— IF YOU'RE ABLE!

IF YOU WANT US, TRY COMING IN AFTER US!

I'LL DO THAT, LITTLE THING!

RIP!

CRACK!

THAT'S THE STUFF! CRACK HIM AGAIN!

WHAM!

THAT'S NOTHING BUT A LOVE-TAP! HERE'S HOW IT SHOULD BE DONE!

CLOP!

CLUMP!

SPACEHAWK IGNORES THE BLOW, LEAPS IN BETWEEN HIS ATTACKERS, AND LOOSES LIGHTNING PUNCHES TO THEIR CHINS!

ARMY OFFICERS, PRESENT TO VIEW THE BOMBER'S INITIAL FLIGHT, RUSH TO THE SCENE.....

WHAT'S THE MEANING OF ALL THIS, SPACEHAWK?

I THINK THESE FELLOWS WILL EXPLAIN EVERYTHING WHEN THEY COME TO, GENERAL!

LATER

SPACEHAWK, YOUR BOMBER IS A MARVEL! WITH THE HELP YOU'RE GIVING US, WE CAN'T LOSE THIS WAR! BY THE WAY,— THOSE TWO TANK TESTERS TALKED PLENTY! THEY WERE HIRED BY FOREIGN AGENTS TO GET YOU! FEDERAL POLICE HAVE ALL OF THEM NOW— THANKS TO YOU!

I'M GLAD TO DO ALL I CAN, GENERAL!

SPACEHAWK GOES INTO ACTION IN A SLAM BANG BATTLE IN THE PACIFIC IN NEXT MONTH'S

TARGET COMICS

Spacehawk

and the
DEVIL DIVERS
of the
DEEP

by BASIL WOLVERTON

A LONE AMERICAN DESTROYER PLOUGHS THRU THE PACIFIC, ITS CREW UNAWARE OF THE DEADLY MENACE STEALTHILY SURROUNDING IT. SUDDENLY THERE IS A ROAR OF GUNS AS FOUR STRANGE CRAFT RISE TO THE KILL!

ON BOARD THE DESTROYER....

THEY'RE **DEVIL DIVERS**, THE ENEMY'S NEW TYPE OF UNDERSEA DESTROYER! ONLY A MIRACLE CAN SAVE US FROM FOUR OF THEM, BUT WE'LL GIVE THEM EVERYTHING WE'VE GOT AS LONG AS WE'RE AFLOAT!

INSIDE THE FLAGSHIP OF THE DEVIL DIVERS, **KOSAKI**, THE COMMANDER, HISSES OUT ORDERS....

TELL THEM TO CIRCLE ABOUT CAUTIOUSLY, AND NOT TO EXPOSE THEMSELVES EXCEPT WHEN THEY RISE TO FIRE! **HA!** WE'LL SOON BLAST EVERY AMERICAN DOG OUT OF THE PACIFIC WITH THESE SWIFT, DEEP-DIVING CRAFT OF OURS!

—AND UP IN THE STRATOSPHERE, **SPACEHAWK'S** SHIP SILENTLY HOVERS ABOVE THE SCENE....

THAT DESTROYER HASN'T A CHANCE, SPACEHAWK!

IT LOOKS BAD, DORK! THIS IS THE TIME TO BREAK IN THE ANTI-GRAVITY BEAM PROJECTOR I'VE BEEN BUILDING TO HELP AMERICA! GET IT READY TO GO!

MEANWHILE

THE ENEMY CRAFT HAVE DISAPPEARED, SIR!

THEY'RE HIT AND RUN FIGHTERS, BUT AS LONG AS THINGS GO WELL FOR THEM, THEY'LL BOB UP AGAIN!

I STRAPPED AN ANTI-GRAVITY UNIT TO THE PROJECTOR SO THAT IT WON'T BE SO HEAVY, SPACEHAWK!

GOOD! NOW DIVE DOWN OVER THE DESTROYER, AND I'LL LEAP OUT!

LOOK, SIR!

AIRCRAFT! SOUND THE ALARM!

NO!—HOLD THE ANTI-AIRCRAFT FIRE! THAT LOOKS LIKE SPACEHAWK'S SHIP!

WE'VE HELD THEM IN SUSPENSE LONG ENOUGH! NOW IS THE TIME TO— WAIT! WHAT IS THAT IN THE SKY?

THAT APPEARS TO BE THE SHIP OF THE MYSTERIOUS ONE CALLED SPACEHAWK, CAPTAIN!

SO! THE DEMOCRACY-MINDED SKY DWELLER COMES TO DEFEND OUR ENEMIES! THE FOOL WILL REGRET SUCH A MOVE!

OBSERVE, CAPTAIN! SOME ONE DROPS FROM THE SHIP!

IT'S SPACEHAWK! TO THE SURFACE QUICKLY, AND SHOOT HIM DOWN!

THE FLAGSHIP SMASHES TO THE SURFACE, AND FIRES....

BOOM!

SIX-INCH SHELLS SCREAM PAST SPACEHAWK AS HE PLUMMETS DOWN WITH THE ANTI-GRAVITY BEAM PROJECTOR!

YOU'LL HAVE TO DO BETTER THAN THAT, YOU YELLOW BUZZARDS!

BANG!

BANG!

BANG!

AMERICAN GUNS SWING ON THE DEVIL DIVER, WHICH IMMEDIATELY PLUNGES TO SAFETY BENEATH THE WAVES!

BOOM!

BOOM!

SPACEHAWK! WHAT BRINGS YOU HERE AT A TIME LIKE THIS?

WITH YOUR PERMISSION, CAPTAIN, I'D LIKE TO SET UP THIS MACHINE IN ACTION AGAINST—

JUST THEN ANOTHER OMINOUS SHAPE BREAKS THE SURFACE, AND FOUR GUNS ROAR THEIR DEFIANCE!

BOOM!

BOOM!

BOOM!

BOOM

A SHELL CRASHES INTO THE BRIDGE!

CRASH!

CAPTAIN!

CARRY ON, MEN! WE CAN'T GIVE UP!

DON'T WORRY! BETWEEN YOUR CREW AND THIS MACHINE I'VE BROUGHT, WE'LL SETTLE WITH THEM!

TORPEDOES STREAK FROM THE DESTROYER OUT TOWARD THE SPOT WHERE THE ATTACKER HAS HASTILY SUBMERGED...

BUT THE DEVIL DIVER LUNGES DOWNWARD, AND THE TORPEDOES PLOUGH HARMLESSLY OVERHEAD!

NO USE WASTING TORPEDOES! THOSE THINGS DIVE TOO DEEPLY AND SWIFTLY!

ANOTHER DEVIL DIVER EMERGES—JUST IN TIME TO RECEIVE SWIFT ACTION FROM THE DESTROYER!

GOOD GOING! THAT ONE WON'T SUBMERGE AGAIN—
—BUT THAT MEANS THEY'LL PEPPER US PLENTY!

THEY STRUCK NUMBER THREE, SIR! IT CAN'T SUBMERGE!

RADIO THE CAPTAIN TO RETREAT AT FULL SPEED, AND KEEP FIRING AS HE GOES!

THE FLEEING DEVIL DIVER AND THE PURSUING DESTROYER POUND AT EACH OTHER —

BOOM!

BOOM!

—AND THE JAP CRAFT GOES TO THE BOTTOM!

THAT'S ONE OF THEM!

BUT AT WHAT A COST! ALL EXCEPT ONE GUN HAVE BEEN BATTERED OUT OF ACTION!

THEN HERE'S WHERE I COME IN WITH THIS MACHINE! THE SECOND I SEE ONE OF THOSE THINGS COME TO THE SURFACE, I'LL —

THERE!- NOW!

GOOD! NOW WATCH!

A PURPLISH BEAM STABS ACROSS THE WAVES. AS IT HITS THE SURFACE, THE WATER, FREED OF THE DOWNWARD PULL OF GRAVITY, SPEWS INTO THE AIR!

THEN, AS IT FASTENS ON THE DEVIL DIVER, THE CRAFT IS YANKED HALF WAY OUT OF THE WATER!

THE DESTROYER'S ONE GOOD GUN BARKS — AND SCORES A PERFECT HIT!

AND THAT'S TWO OF THEM!

THIS IS AMAZING! HOW DOES THAT MACHINE WORK?

THAT'S A SECRET I PREFER TO KEEP! OTHERWISE IT WOULD PROBABLY GET INTO ENEMY HANDS!

TWO OF OUR CRAFT GONE! THAT PURPLE BEAM HAD SOMETHING TO DO WITH THIS! IT COULD BE SOME SORT OF WEAPON SPACEHAWK HAS BROUGHT TO THE ENEMY! HOW I'D LIKE TO CAPTURE THAT SO-CALLED SUPER BEING!

ORDER NUMBER TWO TO ATTACK THE AMERICAN PIGS AT CLOSE RANGE! WE'LL DROWN THEM IN THEIR OWN BLOOD!

NUMBER TWO EMERGES....

EVEN AS IT FIRES, SPACEHAWK SLAPS THE ANTI-GRAVITY BEAM ON IT, AND SNATCHES IT OUT OF THE SEA!

SPACEHAWK CUTS THE POWER....

—AND THE DEVIL DIVER CRUMPLES AS IT CRASHES BACK INTO THE SEA!

BOOM!

THE DEMOCRATIC DOLTS! I'LL GIVE THEM SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT!

KOSAKI'S FLAGSHIP BREAKS INTO VIEW.....

—AND IN THE STORM OF SHELLS THAT FOLLOWS, SPACEHAWK'S BEAM PROJECTOR IS CRIPPLED!

CRASH!

-AND THE DESTROYER'S LAST GOOD GUN IS WRECKED!

BANG!

THAT WAS A BAD ONE, BUT WE'RE STILL AFLOAT!

THEY'VE DIVED AGAIN! THERE'S ONLY ONE THING LEFT TO DO —OR THEY'RE SURE TO SINK US!

SPACEHAWK POISES ON THE BRIDGE'S RAIL.....

POWERFUL LEGS AND HIS ANTI-GRAVITY BELT CARRY HIM FAR OUT OVER THE WATER!

I'M IN LUCK! I CAN SEE IT JUST BELOW ME!

SPACEHAWK DIVES.....

.....AND CATCHES ON TO THE CRAFT! WORKING SWIFTLY, HE RIPS A HOLE IN THE CONNING TOWER!

WATER!! THEY MUST HAVE HIT US!

GET TO THE SURFACE AND RETREAT AT FULL SPEED!

THE DEVIL DIVER EMERGES....

HEY, DOWN THERE! SEND YOUR CAPTAIN UP HERE, OR THIS RIG IS GOING TO GET MESSED UP!

SUFFERING SONS OF THE RISING SUN! THEY'VE BOARDED THE CRAFT! GO UP AFTER THE SWINE!

THE MEN RUSH OUT, ONLY TO SURRENDER AS DEADLY FIRE FROM SPACEHAWK'S FLAME GUN CRACKLES ABOUT THEM!

I ASKED FOR YOUR CAPTAIN! GET HIM UP HERE!

KOSAKI SEES WHAT IS GOING ON BY LOOKING THRU HIS PERISCOPE....

SPACEHAWK!

HE WON'T TAKE **ME**, BUT I'LL GET **HIM**! I'LL DIVE THIS THING JUST ENOUGH TO WASH THEM ALL INTO THE SEA! THEN I'LL EMERGE AND OUT-RUN THAT DESTROYER!

THE DEVIL DIVER SUDDENLY GOES UNDER! SPACEHAWK LEAPS TO SAFETY, BUT THE CREW IS SWEPT AWAY!

I EXPECTED SOMETHING LIKE THIS!

BUT THE DEVIL DIVER NEVER COMES TO THE TOP AGAIN! THE SPURT OF WATER THAT GUSHES THRU THE CONNING TOWER BRUSHES KOSAKI OFF HIS FEET! BEFORE HE CAN GET BACK TO THE CONTROLS, HE IS OVERCOME BY THE FLOOD!

THE DESTROYER PICKS SPACEHAWK UP, AND HE GOES AT ONCE TO THE WOUNDED CAPTAIN....

EVERYTHING IS GOING TO BE ALL RIGHT, CAPTAIN! I'LL REPAIR THE PROJECTOR RIGHT AWAY! IT'LL PROTECT US TILL WE CAN GET INTO PORT!

THANKS, SPACEHAWK! WITH NEWS LIKE THAT, I KNOW THAT WE WOUNDED MEN WILL PULL THRU!

NEXT MONTH

SPACEHAWK SPRINGS SOME NEW SURPRISES WITH HIS ANTI-GRAVITY BEAM PROJECTOR!

SPACEHAWK

AT AN AIR BASE ON THE ALASKAN COAST A STRANGE PLANE SUDDENLY ROARS OVER THE MOUNTAINS AT TERRIFIC SPEED AND STREAKS TOWARD THE RUNWAY! MEN RACE TO THEIR POSTS, AND THEN—

SPACEHAWK! THAT'S SPACEHAWK'S SHIP!

RIGHT! NO ONE ELSE TRAVELS LIKE THAT!

WELCOME, SPACEHAWK! I'M LIEUTENANT RYAN!

HAPPY TO KNOW YOU, LIEUTENANT! I'M OUT ON OBSERVATION FOR THE GOVERNMENT! I'M STOPPING AT ALL THE ALASKAN BASES TO GET ACQUAINTED WITH YOU COMMANDERS!

BASIL WOLVERTON

MAN! THAT'S SOME SWEET BUS YOU HAVE HERE! HOW FAST WILL THOSE ROCKET TUBES DRIVE IT?

CLIMB IN IF YOU WISH, AND I'LL GIVE YOU A SHORT DEMONSTRATION!

WOW! WHAT A TAKE-OFF!

ZOOM!

AND SPEED! WHY - WE'RE DOING SEVEN HUNDRED MILES AN HOUR!

WE'RE NOT EXACTLY SLIPPING BACKWARD!

SPACEHAWK DARTS OUT OVER THE SEA.....

WHOOM!

AS SPACEHAWK TURNS BACK...

HAVE ANY OF YOUR SHIPS EVER LANDED ON THAT ISLAND DOWN THERE, LIEUTENANT RYAN?

NONE OF MY MEN HAS EVER REPORTED BEING FORCED DOWN THERE!

I THINK WE'D BETTER LAND AND HAVE A LOOK AROUND ON THIS ISLAND!

SEE? AIRPLANE TIRE MARKS!

THEY'RE SO FAINT I CAN'T SEE HOW YOU SPOTTED THEM FROM THE AIR! I WONDER WHAT SHIPS COULD HAVE MADE THOSE TRACKS?

PERHAPS WE CAN FIND OUT! THEY RUN TOWARD THOSE TREES!

SUDDENLY....

JAPS!

LET THEM TAKE US WITHOUT A FIGHT, RYAN! WE'VE GOT TO LEARN WHAT GOES ON HERE!

SPACEHAWK AND RYAN ARE DRAGGED INTO THE SHRUBBERY, WHERE THEY SEE.....

CAMOUFLAGE NETS, SPACEHAWK!

AND SCORES OF BOMBERS HIDDEN BENEATH!

WITHIN THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE SECRET BASE.....

AH! QUITE A PRIZE! THE SO-CALLED GREAT SPACEHAWK AND A MISERABLE ENEMY OFFICER! HOW DID YOU FIND THIS PLACE? ANSWER ME — QUICKLY!

THE STRONG AND SILENT AMERICAN TYPE, EH? I'LL BE BACK TO MAKE YOU TALK!

MEANWHILE, THIS SHOULD STIR YOUR SLUGGISH OCCIDENTAL BLOOD!

THE JAP COMMANDER GOES TO THE NEXT ROOM...

MAN THE SHIPS! WE MUST ATTACK THE PACIFIC COAST AT ONCE! OTHERWISE ENEMY SHIPS MAY SOON COME TO SEARCH FOR OUR PRISONERS! WE MUST HIT AND RUN WITHOUT INTERFERENCE!

SPACEHAWK'S SUPER-SENSITIVE EARS CATCH EVERY WORD....

THEY'RE GOING TO ATTACK THE PACIFIC COAST!

THIS IS TERRIBLE! HERE WE ARE, COMPLETELY HELPLESS!

DON'T BE TOO SURE, RYAN! NOW THAT WE KNOW WHAT THE SCORE IS - WE'LL ACT!

YOU— YOU'RE BREAKING THOSE ROPES AS THOUGH THEY WERE PAPER!

SNAP!

SNAP!

SPACEHAWK FREES RYAN, AND THEY BURST OUT UPON THE GUARD!

THEIR SHIPS ARE ALREADY TAKING OFF!

MY MEN WILL HEAR AND ATTACK THEM. BUT THEY'LL BE OUTNUMBERED! THE JAPS WILL GET THRU!

A SECTION OF THE WOODED AREA'S RIM, MADE UP OF FALSE TREES, SWINGS BACK TO LET OUT THE BOMBERS.....

YOU'RE RIGHT! IF WE DON'T GET TO MY SHIP, THERE'LL SOON BE PLENTY OF GRIEF DOWN IN THE STATES!

IT'S STILL OUT THERE, — THANKS TO THE LOCKED DOOR AND WHEELS!

LET'S MAKE A DASH FOR IT!

JAPS RUSH OUT TO STOP THEM, BUT...

ONE SIDE, BUD! WE HAVENT TIME TO CHEW THE FAT!

WHAM!

WE MADE IT — BUT HERE THEY COME!

NOT FOR LONG! WATCH WHILE I TRAIN THIS ANTI-GRAVITY BEAM ON THEM!

A PURPLE BEAM STABS FROM THE SHIP! THE MOMENT IT STRIKES THE JAPS, THEY ARE FREED OF THE EARTH'S GRAVITY PULL, AND ARE JERKED INTO THE AIR!

I CAN HARDLY BELIEVE IT!

NOW I'LL CUT THE POWER!

THE JAPS FALL IN A HEAP AS GRAVITY AGAIN SEIZES THEM!

SPACEHAWK TAKES OFF.....

THERE'S THE RADIO TRANSMITTER, RYAN! BETTER TELL YOUR MEN NOT TO GO INTO THE AIR. THEY'RE TOO OUTNUMBERED!

OUTNUMBERED OR NOT, THEY'LL WANT TO ATTACK!

PLEASE DO AS I SUGGEST, LIEUTENANT. I'M GOING TO USE MY ANTI-GRAVITY BEAM, AND THE SKY SHOULD BE CLEAR OF EVERYTHING EXCEPT ENEMY SHIPS!

OKAY! I'LL DO IT!

BACK AT THE AMERICAN BASE, RYAN'S MESSAGE ARRIVES JUST AS THE SOUND DETECTOR PICKS UP THE DRONE OF SHIPS PASSING TO THE WEST....

YOU SAY LIEUTENANT RYAN ORDERED US **NOT** TO GO UP AFTER THEM?

NOT UNLESS THEY TURN THIS WAY!

MEANWHILE, SPACEHAWK SWIFTLY OVERTAKES THE JAP BOMBERS. HIS ANTI-GRAVITY BEAM DARTS OUT LIKE A GIANT ARM AND SNATCHES THEM UP WITH A SUDDEN FORCE THAT JERKS WINGS LOOSE AND TOSSES THE CREWS INTO INSENSIBILITY!

AS SPACEHAWK DIVES IN AMONG THE BOMBERS, RYAN OPERATES THE POWERFUL MACHINE GUN....

GOOD WORK, RYAN! THAT'S FOUR TO YOUR CREDIT!

WITH THIS AMAZING GUN OF YOURS, I CAN'T MISS!

LOOKS AS THOUGH THAT'S ALL OF THEM! WE'D BETTER GET BACK TO THAT ISLAND AND GET THE OTHERS!

WHAT A FIGHT! ONE SHIP AGAINST A WHOLE FLEET!

BACK ON THE ISLAND.....

NO MORE REPORTS FROM OUR SHIPS, SIR!

THEN THAT MYSTERIOUS AND DEADLY BEAM IN SPACEHAWK'S PLANE MUST HAVE DOWNED ALL OF THEM! MAY OUR HONORABLE ANCESTORS FOREVER CURSE THE FOREIGN PIG!

GET INTO THE TWO SHIPS WE HAVE LEFT – ALL OF YOU. WHEN SPACEHAWK RETURNS – IF HE DOES – HE WON'T FIND US HERE!

A LITTLE LATER....

THERE'S THE ISLAND! I'LL STRAFE IT WITH THE BEAM!

UNDER THE BEAM'S EFFECT THE ISLAND IS DENUDED AS TREES AND BUILDINGS LEAP SKYWARD!

WE'RE TOO LATE! THERE ARE NO SHIPS OR MEN LEFT ON THE ISLAND!

THERE! – OFF TO THE NORTHWEST! TWO SHIPS! I DON'T THINK WE'RE TOO LATE AFTER ALL, RYAN!

IN THE JAP COMMANDER'S SHIP...

HERE HE COMES! WE'RE LOST— UNLESS PERHAPS WE CAN LOSE HIM IN THOSE CLOUDS AHEAD!

THEY'RE ZIG-ZAGGING!

YES, THEY'RE STILL TOO FAR AWAY TO KEEP THE BEAM ON THEM. MAYBE WE CAN STOP THEM SOME OTHER WAY! SEE THAT ICEBERG DOWN THERE AHEAD OF THEM?

SPACEHAWK FIXES THE BEAM ON THE DISTANT ICEBERG'S RIM, AND MASSIVE HUNKS OF ICE BREAK LOOSE AND HURTLE UPWARD!

CRASH! BOOM!

—JUST IN TIME TO SMASH INTO ONE OF THE FLEEING PLANES— —BUT THE COMMANDER'S PLANE GOES UNHARMED!

BANG!

THEY'RE OVERTAKING US! WE CAN'T MAKE IT TO THE CLOUDS!

THEN IF WE MUST DIE, TURN BACK, AND TRY TO RAM THEM!

THE JAP PILOT BANKS SHARPLY ABOUT.....

THEY'RE TURNING AROUND, SPACEHAWK! WE'RE GOING TO COLLIDE!

NOT THIS TIME, LIEUTENANT!

THE SHIPS MISS EACH OTHER BY INCHES AS JAP BULLETS STORM PAST SPACEHAWK'S PLANE!

SPACEHAWK SWINGS BACK AND COMES UP AT THE JAP PLANE, WHICH SUDDENLY NOSES DOWN — AND THE TWO SHIPS LOCK TOGETHER!

THEY'RE FORCING US DOWN!

I CAN'T SHAKE THEM OFF! THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY OUT! HERE, RYAN! TAKE THE CONTROLS— AND HOLD HER STEADY!

AS SPACEHAWK CLIMBS OUT.....

AH! HERE'S WHERE YOU COME TO THE END OF YOUR DEMOCRACY-AIDING CAREER, SPACEHAWK!

SPACEHAWK LEAPS.....

COME ON OUT, CHUM! THE AIR IS FINE!

AND THERE'S PLENTY OF IT — — ALL AROUND YOU!

POP!

THE JAP PILOT, TOO FRIGHTENED TO INTERFERE, KEEPS OUT OF SIGHT....

NOW I'LL RIP OFF THEIR RUDDER! THEY WON'T GO FAR WITHOUT IT!

CRACK!

THEN SPACEHAWK TEARS THE TWO SHIPS APART.....

THERE GOES THE LAST OF THEM! YOU SHOULD GET A MESS OF MEDALS FOR THIS, SPACEHAWK!

SAVE THEM TO MAKE BULLETS, RYAN!

I'LL SEE YOU BOYS AND GALS IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF *TARGET COMICS!*

SPACEHAWK

AND THE MYSTERY OF THE GREEN FACES

EXTRA

DAILY

CITY EDITION

EXTRA

VOL. LXXXI NO 24,...

PRICE FIVE CENTS

GREEN PLAGUE SWEEPS NATION!

Hundreds More Fall Victims To Mysterious Malady

Doctors and Scientists Baffled by Startling Pro-Axis State of Mind Accompanying Discoloration of Skin

...spring over the country like a ...the strange "Green Plague" ...day today was report- ...while and Red ... latest of ...oon.

Officers Among Stricken

All Sectio... of Nort... America... Report... Increa... Pecul...

Washin... while ... plans ... witho... whe... Me... me... Na... pa...

by BASIL WOLVERTON

AT WASHINGTON, D.C.

WE MUST DO SOMETHING TO HALT THIS HORRIBLE GREEN PLAGUE! ALREADY AN ALARMING NUMBER OF OUR GOVERNMENT LEADERS AND ARMY AND NAVY HEADS ARE VICTIMS! **EVERY ONE OF THEM HAS TURNED AGAINST THE ALLIED CAUSE!**

IT'S UNCANNY! UNLESS WE CAN STOP THIS THING AT ONCE, EVERY PERSON IN AMERICA WILL BE IN SYMPATHY WITH OUR ENEMIES! **THAT WILL BE THE END OF THE UNITED STATES!**

WHY DON'T WE CALL IN SPACEHAWK?

SPACEHAWK? HMM! WHAT DOES **HE** KNOW ABOUT RARE DISEASES?

LET'S CALL HIM, ANYWAY! WHAT'S THERE TO LOSE?

LATER

WE HOPE YOU CAN HELP US DISCOVER THE SOURCE OF THIS PUZZLING MALADY, SPACEHAWK! WE MUST SOMEHOW HALT ITS EFFECT ON OUR PEOPLE, OR THE AXIS WILL DEFEAT US WITHIN A FEW WEEKS!

I'LL NOT STOP UNTIL I FIND WHAT CAUSES IT, SENATOR!

I—I FEEL A LITTLE WEAK ALL OF A SUDDEN! BEEN WORKING OVERTIME TOO MUCH, I GUESS!

THE SENATOR STAGGERS. HIS FACIAL MUSCLES TWITCH VIOLENTLY, AND THEN..... HIS SKIN TURNS A LIVID GREEN!

GREAT GALAXIES! HE HAS THE GREEN PLAGUE!

MY HANDS! THEY'RE GREEN!

THERE, NOW! TAKE IT EASY! BETTER SIT DOWN!

NO! THERE ARE THINGS TO BE DONE! LISTEN, SPACEHAWK! WE'VE BEEN **WRONG**! WE MUST STOP WORKING AGAINST THE AXIS POWERS AND START WORKING **WITH** THEM! **THEIR CAUSE IS RIGHT!**

LET'S NOT TALK NOW! COME, I'LL TAKE YOU TO A HOSPITAL!

A HOSPITAL! I'M NOT SICK, YOU FOOL! I'M JUST BEGINNING TO SEE THE TRUTH! IF YOU DON'T AGREE WITH ME, THEN YOU ARE MY ENEMY! GET OUT BEFORE I KILL YOU!

THE SENATOR LEAPS FIENDISHLY AT SPACEHAWK, BUT.....

SORRY TO HAVE TO DO THIS!

SMACK!

THAT EVENING, AS SPACEHAWK WORKS IN HIS LABORATORY, HE RECEIVES A CALLER....

I AM DR. HERMAN KRAUSMANN! I UNDERSTAND THE GOVERNMENT HAS WISELY ASKED YOU TO HELP SOLVE THE MYSTERY OF THE GREEN PLAGUE! I HAVE COME TO OFFER MY SERVICES TO YOU! YOU WILL ACCEPT THEM?

GLADLY, DOCTOR! I'M HONORED TO COLLABORATE WITH SUCH A FAMOUS SCIENTIST! HAVE YOU ANY THEORIES?

I HAVE! I CAN'T SAY WHAT MAY CAUSE THE VICTIMS' SKINS TO TURN GREEN, BUT I BELIEVE THAT THE SUDDEN PRO-AXIS STATE OF MIND IS BROUGHT ON BY A RELATIVELY SIMPLE CONDITION.

SEVERAL YEARS AGO I CONDUCTED A SERIES OF PSYCHOLOGICAL TESTS. I FOUND THAT THE MIND, LIKE THE BODY, OFTEN REACTS IN A VIOLENT REVERSE MANNER TO CERTAIN STIMULI!

IN THIS CASE, THE STIMULUS IS THE WAVE OF PATRIOTIC FERVOR NOW ENVELOPING AMERICA. IN AN EFFORT TO COUNTERBALANCE THE EFFECTS OF THIS FLOOD OF EMOTION, MANY SENSITIVE MINDS TIP THE OTHER WAY! THE UNHAPPY RESULT IS THAT THE VICTIMS' ATTITUDE IS INVOLUNTARILY REVERSED, AND HATRED FOR OUR ENEMIES IS TURNED TO SYMPATHY! I BELIEVE THAT IS WHAT IS HAPPENING TODAY IN AMERICA!

WITH THESE IDEAS IN MIND, I SUGGEST WE START AT ONCE TO FIND A WAY TO OFFSET THE—

NOT SO FAST, DOCTOR! I'M AFRAID I DON'T AGREE WITH YOU! I THINK I'VE ALREADY DISCOVERED, AT LEAST IN PART, WHAT CAUSES THE GREEN PLAGUE!

YOU HAVE? THEN WHAT'S THE ANSWER?

I'M CERTAIN IT'S A CASE OF HYPNOSIS BY RADIO!

OH, COME NOW, SPACEHAWK! THAT'S A BIT TOO FAR-FETCHED!

PERHAPS. BUT WITH THE AID OF MY SUPER-SENSITIVE SHORT WAVE RECEIVER, I'VE PICKED UP THE SOUND OF AN EXTREMELY HIGH FREQUENCY CARRIER WAVE!

NO SOUNDS ARE BEING BROADCAST ON THAT WAVE! ISN'T IT POSSIBLE, THEN, THAT THOUGHT SUGGESTIONS ARE BEING SENT OUT OVER IT, INSTEAD? PEOPLE WHOSE MINDS ARE NATURALLY ATTUNED TO THAT CERTAIN FREQUENCY COULD BE RECEPTIVE TO TELEPATHIC MESSAGES!

RATHER FANTASTIC, IN MY OPINION!

NEVERTHELESS, I'M GOING TO TRACK DOWN THE SOURCE OF THAT CARRIER WAVE — RIGHT NOW! WOULD YOU CARE TO ACCOMPANY ME?

WHY - AH - CERTAINLY! BUT HADN'T WE BETTER WAIT UNTIL MORNING TO GO ON THIS WILD GOOSE CHASE?

NO! EVERY HOUR WE LOSE MEANS MORE HEADWAY FOR THE GREEN PLAGUE! WE MUST GO NOW!

ALL RIGHT, SPACEHAWK, BUT I THINK YOU'RE ON THE WRONG TRACK!

THE TWO TAKE OFF IN SPACEHAWK'S PLANE....

WE'LL HEAD IN THE DIRECTION INDICATED BY THE TRANSMITTER DETECTOR! BETTER SLIP ON THIS SET OF ANTI-GRAVITY STRAPS, DOCTOR! IT'LL LOWER YOU ABOUT AS FAST AS WILL A PARACHUTE— —JUST IN CASE OF EMERGENCY!

BY DAYBREAK

WE'RE SOMEWHERE OVER CENTRAL MEXICO, AND THE DETECTOR SHOWS WE'RE CLOSE TO OUR GOAL!

SURELY YOU DON'T EXPECT TO FIND A BROADCASTING STATION OUT IN THIS WILDERNESS!

OUR ENEMIES WILL GO TO ANY EXTREMES, DOCTOR!

THAT HUGE ROCK PILLAR OVER THERE TO THE EAST, FOR EXAMPLE, WOULD BE AN IDEAL SPOT FOR A TRANSMITTER AERIAL!

DR. KRAUSMANN STEALTHILY FLICKS THE SWITCH ON THE SHIP'S TRANSMITTER, AND WHISPERS INTO THE MICROPHONE!

SPACEHAWK'S KEEN EARS CATCH THE SOUND OF THE DOCTOR'S VOICE.....

CONSIDERATE OF YOU TO SEND A MESSAGE TO YOUR FRIENDS TO ANNOUNCE OUR ARRIVAL!

DR. KRAUSMANN WHIPS OUT A GUN!

YOU FINALLY CAUGHT ON, EH? WELL, IT'S TOO LATE NOW! THEY KNOW YOU'RE COMING, AND THEY'LL BE READY FOR YOU!

I COULD SEE THRU YOU FROM THE FIRST, YOU RAT! YOUR EFFORTS TO SIDE-TRACK ME WITH YOUR SILLY THEORY WERE TOO OBVIOUS! DROP THAT GUN BEFORE I SMACK YOU!

WITH SURPRISING SPEED DR. KRAUSMANN LEAPS BACK THRU THE DOOR TO THE CONTROL CABIN, AND SLAMS IT IN SPACEHAWK'S FACE!

BANG!

DR. KRAUSMANN OPENS THE OUTER DOOR AND LEAPS FROM THE SHIP!

HE BAILED OUT! I SHOULDN'T HAVE GIVEN HIM THAT ANTI-GRAVITY STRAP! WELL, HE CAN'T GO FAR IN THIS DESERT!

KRAUSMANN LANDS AND RUNS TO THE ROCK TOWER....

HE'S COMING DOWN AFTER ME, BUT I'LL FOOL HIM!

HE DISAPPEARED IN THAT ROCK!

SPACEHAWK LANDS. AS HE RACES TOWARD THE CREVICE INTO WHICH DR. KRAUSMANN HAS DISAPPEARED, MACHINE GUN BULLETS POUR FROM A POINT HIGH UP ON THE ROCK!

RA-TAT-TAT TAT-TAT-TAT TAT-TAT-TAT

THIS HOT RECEPTION PROVES I'VE COME TO THE RIGHT PLACE!

HE BOUNDS TO THE CREVICE, AND....

I KNOW YOU'RE IN THERE, KRAUSMANN! I'M COMING IN AFTER YOU! BETTER HAVE YOUR HANDS IN THE AIR!

COME AHEAD, YOU SAP, AND SEE WHAT HAPPENS!

DR. KRAUSMANN FIRES AS SPACEHAWK COMES INTO VIEW,— BUT HE IS TOO SLOW ON THE TRIGGER! SPACEHAWK DODGES, AND HIS FLAME GUN SPITS SUDDEN DEATH!

YOU ASKED FOR IT!

BANG!

A PASSAGEWAY UP THRU THE ROCK! IT MUST LEAD TO THE PLACE WHERE THAT MACHINE GUN IS!

SPACEHAWK SPRINGS UP A LONG, WINDING FLIGHT OF CRUDE STEPS, AND SEES—

AH! A COMMITTEE OF ONE TO RECEIVE ME AT THE DOOR!

STOP! YOU MY PRISONER!

BUT SPACEHAWK KEEPS ON COMING, AND DIVES IN THE INSTANT THE GIANT GUARD OPENS FIRE!

BANG! BANG! BANG! BANG!

YOU LOOK TOUGH! LET'S SEE IF YOU REALLY ARE!

FIRST, LET'S SEE WHAT YOU CAN DO WITHOUT THAT GUN!

WOW! NOT BAD, BROTHER!

CRACK!

RIGHT INTO MY HANDS! NICE WORK!

BACK YOU GO!

YOU WERE TOUGH, BUT YOUR SKULL SHOULD HAVE BEEN TOUGHER!

WHAM!

SPACEHAWK HEARS THE STEEL DOORS OPENING, AND WHIRLS TO SEE HIS OLD ENEMY—

DR. GORE!

SURPRISED, EH, SPACEHAWK? THOUGHT THAT TUMBLE INTO THE CANYON KILLED ME, DIDN'T YOU? A NATIVE CARRIED ME OUT, AND IN SPITE OF MY BROKEN BONES, I LIVED! THIS NECK BRACE PUTS ME AT A PHYSICAL DISADVANTAGE, BUT YOU WON'T TOUCH ME — UNLESS YOU WANT A DEADLY DOSE FROM THIS ACID GUN!

MY NAZI AGENTS, INCLUDING DR. KRAUSMANN, HAVE BEEN WATCHING YOU,—JUST IN CASE YOU STARTED SNOOPING! MY BROADCASTING PRO-NAZI THOUGHT SUGGESTIONS INTO AMERICAN MINDS IS RATHER STUPENDOUS, DON'T YOU THINK? I OCCASIONALLY ALTER THE WAVE LENGTH TO MATCH THE VARIOUS TYPES OF HUMAN RECEIVERS! SOON ALL AMERICA WILL BE CONTROLLED BY MY POWERFUL, TRANSMITTED THOUGHTS, AND MY COUNTRY WILL WIN A QUICK AND BLOODLESS VICTORY!

AS FOR THE GREEN SKINS, THE ULTRA-SHORT WAVES CAUSE A CHEMICAL REACTION WHICH ALTERS THE COLOR PIGMENT! I UNDERSTAND IT'S VERY EFFECTIVE!

DR. GORE TOUCHES A SWITCH, AND A SECTION OF THE WALL MOVES BACK....

AND NOW I'M GOING TO SETTLE WITH YOU! THAT IS THE ENTRANCE TO A DUNGEON INSIDE THIS ROCK! YOU WILL ENTER AND STAY THERE UNTIL YOU DIE! GET IN THERE!

WHAT IF I REFUSE?

THE ACID INSIDE THIS GUN IS THE KIND THAT INSTANTLY BURNS TO THE BONE! I'LL GIVE YOU FIVE SECONDS TO GO THRU THAT DOOR, OR.....

SPACEHAWK STEPS TOWARD THE DUNGEON...

YOU WIN, DR. GORE!

HA! VENGEANCE AT LAST! WHAT A PLEASURE IT WILL BE TO WATCH EACH STAGE OF YOUR DEATH!

LIKE A FLASH SPACEHAWK WHEELS, WHIPS OUT HIS GUN AND FIRES!

BUT YOU DON'T WIN FOR LONG!

OW! MY HAND!

SPLAT!!

IN YOU GO!

THAT SHOULD HOLD YOU UNTIL THE F.B.I. GETS HERE!

SLAM!

WHEN I GET THRU WITH THIS TRANSMITTER, I DON'T BELIEVE IT'LL WORK VERY WELL!

CRASH! BANG!

SPACEHAWK LEAPS FROM A WINDOW IN THE ROCK.....

NOW BACK TO WASHINGTON TO MAKE A REPORT!

ON THE WAY BACK HE HEARS A NEWS FLASH...

ACCORDING TO REPORTS FROM ALL SECTIONS OF AMERICA, THE GREEN PLAGUE HAS SUDDENLY DISAPPEARED! ALL VICTIMS HAVE MIRACULOUSLY RECOVERED!

THAT'S GOOD NEWS! WITH DR. GORE'S DIABOLIC MIND MESSAGES OFF THE AIR, THINGS ARE ALREADY BACK TO NORMAL!

NEXT MONTH

SPACEHAWK COMES BACK IN ANOTHER TARGET COMICS ADVENTURE

Spacehawk

INSIDE A SPECIALLY CONSTRUCTED SOUND-PROOF CHAMBER, SPACEHAWK DEMONSTRATES HIS NEWEST WEAPON OF WAR — A SIREN WHOSE PIERCING SOUND VIBRATIONS CAN KILL ALL UNPROTECTED LIVING THINGS WITHIN ITS RANGE. CLAD IN SOUND-PROOF ARMOR, SPACEHAWK SUBJECTS A GUINEA PIG TO THE HIGH FREQUENCY SOUND WAVES. THE CREATURE LEAPS IN PANIC — THEN SUCCUMBS TO THE PENETRATING VIBRATIONS!

BASIL WOLVERTON

ARMY OFFICIALS LOOK IN THRU A HEAVY QUARTZ WINDOW, AND SPACEHAWK'S VOICE COMES TO THEM THRU A SPEAKER.....

YOU SEE, THE PIG IS DEAD! NOW I'LL STEP UP THE SPEED OF THE SIREN'S MOTOR SO THAT THE VIBRATIONS WILL BE MORE THAN TWENTY THOUSAND A SECOND — INAUDIBLE TO THE HUMAN EAR!

OBSERVE THIS CONTAINER OF OIL. THE INAUDIBLE, OR SUPERSONIC SOUND WAVES ARE CAUSING IT TO VAPORIZE!

EEEEEE

THE VIBRATIONS ARE ALSO CAUSING THIS BOARD TO CATCH FIRE! AND NOTICE HOW THIS PIECE OF PLATE GLASS IS CRUMBLING TO POWDER!

EEEE

EEE

IT'S AMAZING! SUCH AN INSTRUMENT OF DESTRUCTION COULD WIN THE WAR WITHIN A FEW WEEKS!

BUT IT'S IMPRACTICAL! UNLESS PROTECTED, OUR OWN MEN MIGHT BE KILLED BY THE THOUSANDS! AND IT WOULD REQUIRE MONTHS—EVEN YEARS—TO EQUIP OUR TROOPS WITH SOUND-PROOF ARMOR!

I AGREE WITH MAJOR RATCHFORD! TOO MUCH RISK AND EXPENSE WOULD BE INVOLVED!

LATER

YOU SAW WHAT THE SIREN CAN DO, GENTLEMEN! IF YOU WISH TO USE IT IN THE WAR EFFORT, HERE ARE PLANS FOR MAKING THE SIREN AND THE ARMOR!

SORRY, SPACEHAWK, BUT I'M AFRAID WE CAN'T USE THEM! IT WOULD BE TOO COSTLY TO MANUFACTURE ARMOR FOR THOUSANDS OF TROOPS!

BUT THAT WOULDN'T BE NECESSARY! SMALL UNITS COULD PLANT THE SIREN WELL WITHIN ENEMY TERRITORY, AND-

I BEG PARDON, BUT THIS IS AN IMPORTANT CALL FOR YOU, MAJOR RATCHFORD!

THE JAPS ARE ATTACKING THE WEST COAST! I MUST GO THERE AT ONCE!

GOOD HEAVENS!

LET ME TAKE YOU IN MY SHIP, MAJOR!

THANKS, SPACEHAWK! THERE'S NO WAY I CAN GET THERE ANY QUICKER!

SPACEHAWK'S ROCKET-DRIVEN PLANE ZIPS WESTWARD.....

THIS IS TERRIBLE, MAJOR! HOW IS THE ENEMY ATTACKING?

BY AIR! WE'VE BEEN TAKEN COMPLETELY BY SURPRISE!

MEANWHILE, THE ARMY IS ALREADY HAMMERING AT JAP PARATROOPS DESCENDING FROM A CLOUDY SKY!.....

SPACEHAWK AND MAJOR RATCHFORD ARRIVE ON THE SCENE.....

THIS CAN'T LAST LONG! OUR MEN ARE PICKING THEM OFF BEFORE THEY CAN LAND!

BUT SEE WHAT'S COMING DOWN NOW, MAJOR!

METAL SPHERES, LOWERED BY GIANT 'CHUTES, FLOAT EARTHWARD!

PURSUITS CHARGE AT THE SPHERES, BUT BULLETS GLANCE HARMLESSLY AWAY!

MANY OF THE SPHERES LAND — EACH TO DISGORGE SEVERAL JAP SOLDIERS!

GREAT SCOTT! IF ANY MORE OF THOSE THINGS LAND, WE'LL HAVE A WHOLE JAP ARMY ON OUR HANDS!

THE REAL BATTLE IS PROBABLY GOING ON ABOVE THE CLOUDS!

SPACEHAWK ZOOMS ABOVE THE CLOUDS, BUT NO PARATROOPS OR ENEMY TRANSPORTS ARE VISIBLE! THE ONLY SHIPS IN THE SKY ARE U.S. PURSUITS AND INTERCEPTORS HUNTING FOR THE FOE!

THE ENEMY CRAFT MUST BE HIDDEN IN THE CLOUDS, MAJOR!

NO WONDER THEY CAME IN WITHOUT BEING SEEN! BUT HOW CAN AIRCRAFT REMAIN INSIDE A SLOW-MOVING MASS OF CLOUDS?

LOOK! THERE'S YOUR ANSWER!

UP FROM THE CLOUDS GLIDES A GIANT DIRIGIBLE! AMERICAN FIGHTER PLANES DASH AT IT, BUT ARE REPULSED BY TERRIFIC SALVOS FROM MANY GUNS! AND THEN, LIKE ANGRY BEES FROM A DISTURBED HIVE, JAP SHIPS STORM OUT OF OF THE MAMMOTH STRUCTURE!

I—I CAN'T BELIEVE MY EYES!

THE BIG GUNS ON THE GROUND COULD DOWN THAT THING— BUT IT'S COMPLETELY SCREENED BY CLOUDS! HIGH ALTITUDE BOMBERS ARE THE ONLY ANSWER!

BUT WE CAN'T WAIT FOR THAT! HERE'S MY CHANCE TO PROVE THE VALUE OF MY SUPERSONIC SOUND SIREN!

WHAT? YOU MEAN YOU'RE GOING TO EXPERIMENT AT A TIME LIKE THIS?

THIS IS NO EXPERIMENT, MAJOR! IT'S SOMETHING THAT MUST BE DONE! FIRST, WE'LL CLIMB UPSTAIRS A FEW THOUSAND FEET!

THIRTY THOUSAND — THAT SHOULD BE A SAFE ALTITUDE! AND NOW, MAJOR,—IF YOU'LL TAKE THE CONTROLS AND HOLD THIS THING IN THE SKY, I'LL CRAWL INTO MY SOUND-PROOF ARMOR AND ATTEMPT TO PLANT THE SIREN ON THAT DIRIGIBLE!

YOU MEAN YOU INTEND TO TAKE IT DOWN?

YES. IF I'M NOT BACK WITHIN FIFTEEN MINUTES, YOU'LL KNOW I DIDN'T MAKE IT! SO LONG!

BUT SPACEHAWK! THAT'S SUICIDE!

CLUTCHING THE SIREN, SPACEHAWK LEAPS FROM HIS SHIP!..

.....AND DROPS STRAIGHT FOR THE ENEMY CRAFT!

HE BREAKS HIS FALL BY MEANS OF HIS ANTI-GRAVITY BELT, AND LANDS ON THE DIRIGIBLE! IMMEDIATELY A JAP PILOT TRIES TO KNOCK HIM INTO THE SKY!

IT'S A GOOD THING FOR ME HE DOESN'T DARE USE BULLETS AGAINST THIS SHIP!

WORD GETS TO THE CAPTAIN THAT SOME-ONE HAS BOARDED THE CRAFT!

SEND MEN OUT TO CAPTURE THE DOG!

THE JAPS COME OUT AFTER HIM, BUT.....

SCRAM, YOU YELLOW YAHOOS!

IT'S SPACEHAWK, CAPTAIN!

SO? HAND ME A MACHINE GUN! I WANT THE PLEASURE OF PUNCTURING HIS DEMOCRATIC HIDE!

HE'S COMING THIS WAY, AND HE'S CARRYING SOMETHING! IT MAY BE A BOMB!

OPEN A WINDOW, SO THAT I MAY POKE THIS GUN OUT!

ALREADY SPACEHAWK HAS TURNED ON THE SIREN, AND ITS WHINE SUDDENLY RISES TO A PIERCING SHRIEK!

THE JAPS GO RIGID, HALF PARALYZED BY THE PENETRATING SOUND!

GET BELOW BEFORE THAT NOISE DRIVES US MAD!

MORE MEN ARE ORDERED OUT AFTER SPACEHAWK.....

AH! THIS IS JUST LIKE SMOKING OUT RATS!

BUT NONE OF THE JAPS CAN BEAR THE DEADLY SCREECH!

DISCOURAGING, ISN'T IT?

EEEE

MANY OF THE JAP PILOTS ARE KNOCKED OUT BY THE BRAIN-JARRING VIBRATIONS, AND LOSE CONTROL OF THEIR SHIPS!

BANG!

IT'S A GOOD THING THAT THE AMERICAN PLANES ARE AT A SAFE DISTANCE!

AS THE JAP OFFICERS RUN FOR REFUGE IN AN INNER CABIN.....

IT'S STOPPED!

SPACEHAWK WAS CAUSING IT WITH THAT INSTRUMENT HE HAD! OUR MEN MUST HAVE SHOT HIM! GO SEE!

BUT THE JAPS DO NOT KNOW THAT THE VIBRATIONS—THOUGH NOT DETECTABLE BY HUMAN EARS—ARE GROWING DEADLIER!

SO LONG, PAL! IT'S UP TO YOU TO PLAY TAPS FOR THE JAPS!

EEE EEE EEE

THE SIREN TUMBLES DOWN INSIDE THE DIRIGIBLE. AS IT CONTINUES SPINNING, WOODEN PARTS OF THE STRUCTURE, HEATED BY THE INTENSE VIBRATION, BEGIN TO IGNITE!

EEE

FIRE!

THERE MUST BE A TRAITOR ABOARD! SIGNAL THE FIRE SQUAD!

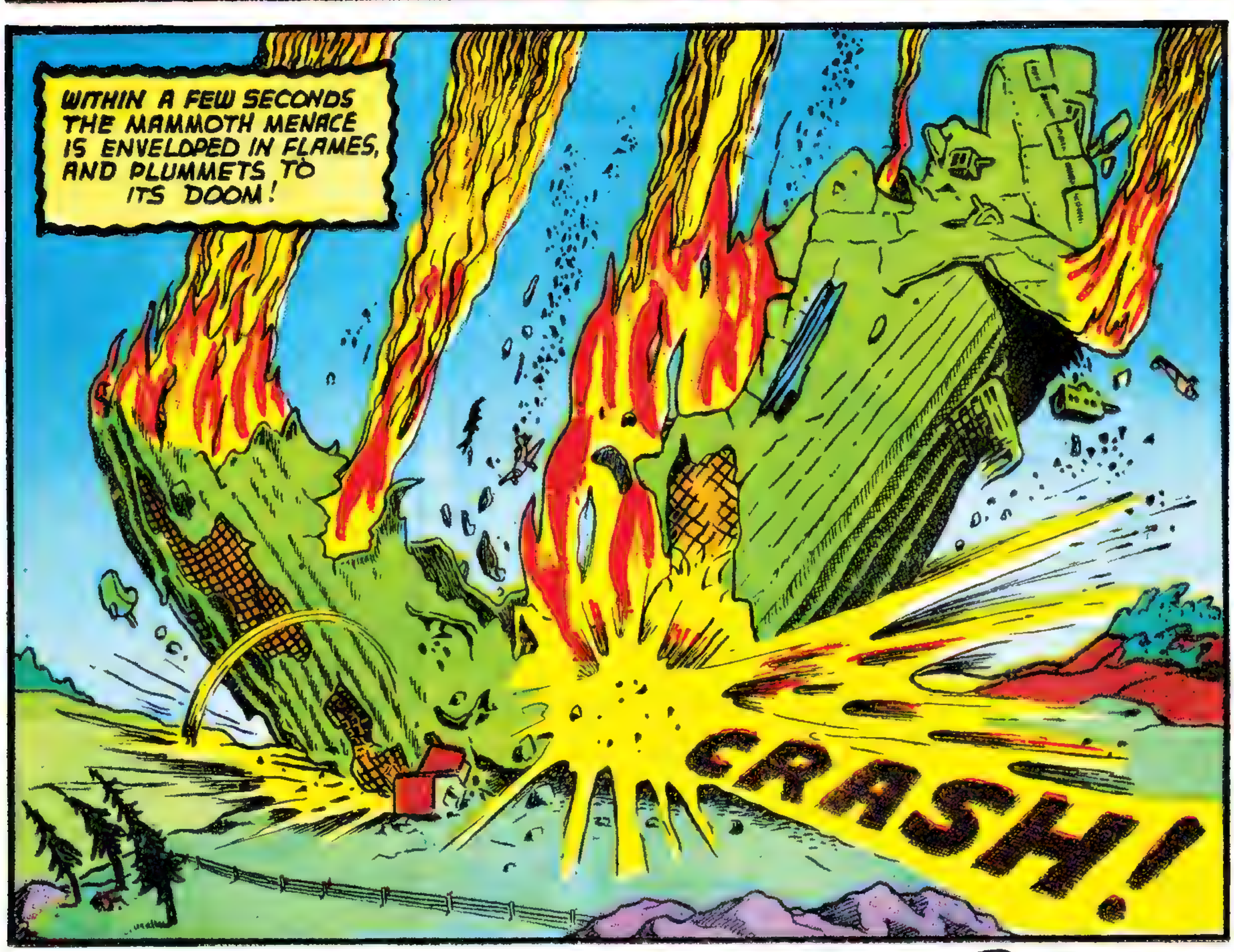
MEANWHILE, IN THE FUEL ROOM, THE AIR BECOMES UNBEARABLE WITH THE FUMES OF VAPORIZED OIL!

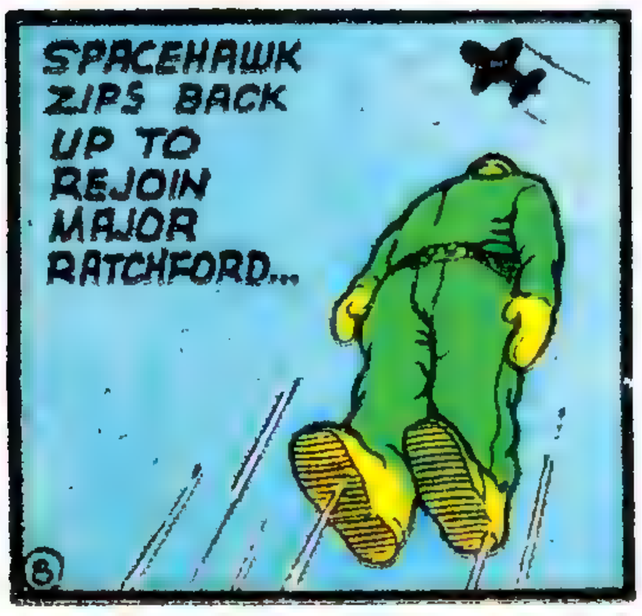
SOMETHING'S WRONG! I'M SUFFOCATING!

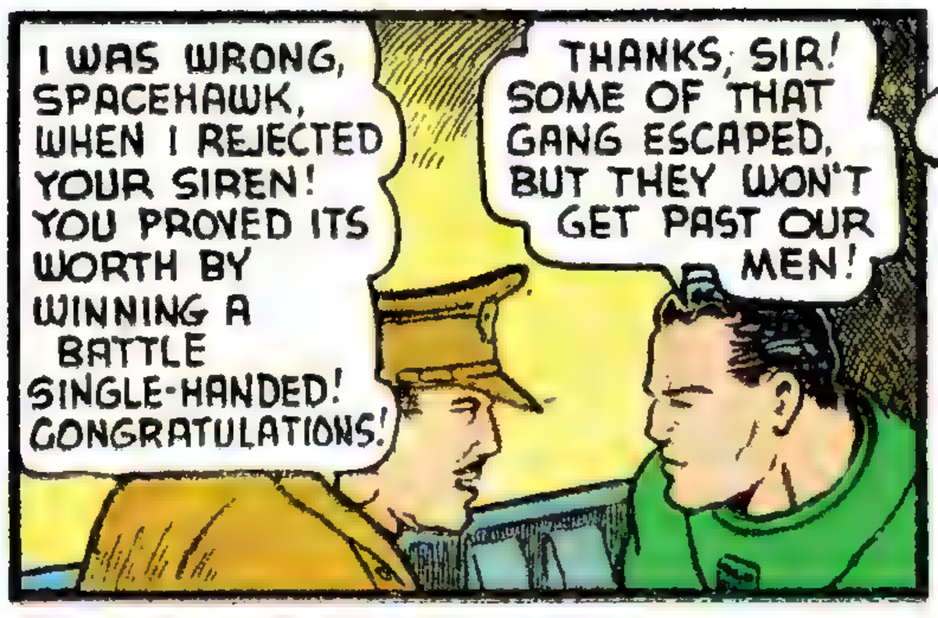
LET'S GET OUT!

IF THOSE VIBRATIONS ARE HAVING THE EFFECT I THINK THEY ARE, I'D BETTER LEAVE BEFORE FIRE IGNITES THE OIL VAPOR!

SUDDENLY.....
BOOM!


WITHIN A FEW SECONDS THE MAMMOTH MENACE IS ENVELOPED IN FLAMES, AND PLUMMETS TO ITS DOOM!
CRASH!


SPACEHAWK ZIPS BACK UP TO REJOIN MAJOR RATCHFORD...
8


I WAS WRONG, SPACEHAWK, WHEN I REJECTED YOUR SIREN! YOU PROVED ITS WORTH BY WINNING A BATTLE SINGLE-HANDED! CONGRATULATIONS!
THANKS, SIR! SOME OF THAT GANG ESCAPED, BUT THEY WON'T GET PAST OUR MEN!

SWARMS OF SMALL SUICIDE SUBS IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC!
SEE WHAT SPACEHAWK DOES TO 'EM IN NEXT MONTH'S
TARGET COMICS

SPACEHAWK

and

THE CASE of the MISSING TIRES

BASIL WOLVERTON

ON THE DARKENED STREETS OF A WESTERN CITY A TIRE THIEF IS AT WORK, WHEN ——

SOMEBODY COMIN'! I GOTTA SCRAM!

IT IS THE MIGHTY SPACEHAWK WHO HAS SURPRISED THE CRIMINAL!

COME BACK HERE, OR I'LL LET YOU HAVE IT — AND I DON'T MEAN THAT TIRE!

JUST TRY AND CATCH ME!

OKAY! THEN HAVE A KAYO!

WHOP!

JUST AT THAT MOMENT, A YOUNG WOMAN DRIVES UP, AND GETS OUT OF THE CAR.....

YOU BRUTE! WHY DID YOU STRIKE THAT POOR, DEFENSELESS MAN!

I CAUGHT THIS **POOR, DEFENSELESS** MAN TRYING TO STEAL A **TIRE**! SURELY YOU DON'T OBJECT TO MY STRIKING A **THIEF**!

I DO! THAT MAN IS PROBABLY HUNGRY AND DESPERATE!

MEN USE SUCH CRUDE AND PRIMITIVE METHODS IN HANDLING ANY SITUATION!

WELL I'LL BE—!

CAN YOU BEAT THAT? WHILE I WAS YAPPING WITH THAT DAME, THAT CROOK GOT AWAY!

APPARENTLY THAT YOUNG LADY DOESN'T APPRECIATE THE VALUE OF TIRES — BUT SHE SHOULD WHEN SHE FINDS ONE IS MISSING OFF **HER** CAR!

SPACEHAWK LIFTS THE CAR WITH ONE HAND, AND WITH THE OTHER DEFTLY REMOVES A REAR WHEEL....

NOW I'LL DITCH HER WHEEL AND BRING IT BACK LATER WHEN SHE REALLY NEEDS IT!

UP AT THE CORNER OF THE BLOCK.....

HEY, YOU! STOP WHERE YOU ARE!

WHEW! THAT COP HAS SPOTTED ME! I'LL TOSS THIS WHEEL INTO THE SHRUBBERY, BUT I'LL NOT TRY TO ESCAPE!

WHAT GOES ON HERE? WHAT WERE YOU DOING TO THAT CAR?

I'M SPACEHAWK, OFFICER! I WAS JUST PLAYING A LITTLE TRICK ON AN ACQUAINTANCE!

YOU – SPACEHAWK? HA! MASQUERADING AS SOME ONE ELSE WILL ONLY GET YOU A FEW MORE MONTHS IN THE JUG, BUD! C'MON!

A FEW MINUTES LATER....

A FINE MESS! NO ONE WILL BELIEVE ME!

MEANWHILE, IN AN OLD WAREHOUSE....

BOSS, I WAS JUST ABOUT TO LIFT A WHEEL WHEN A GUY DRESSED LIKE SPACEHAWK RUSHES UP AND SOCKS ME! JUDGIN' BY THE WAY HE HIT, IT **WAS** SPACEHAWK!

SPACEHAWK? HAW! HAW! THAT'S A NEW ONE!

NOW LISTEN, GUS! I EXPECT EVERY MAN IN THIS ORGANIZATION TO BRING IN AT LEAST ONE TIRE A NIGHT! IF YOU'RE NOT CLEVER ENOUGH TO KEEP UP TO YOUR QUOTA, THEN YOU DON'T GET YOUR CUT OUT OF THIS BUSINESS!

OKAY, BOSS! OKAY! I'LL BE BACK WITH SOMETHING BEFORE MORNING!

ABOUT THAT TIME, SPACEHAWK'S OTHER HUNK OF TROUBLE RETURNS TO HER CAR.....

OHH-H-H! SOME ONE TOOK ONE OF THE WHEELS!

—AND LEFT A NOTE!

Thanks for the tire! Considering your sympathy for thieves, I feel certain you won't mind the loss.

Spacehawk

SOMEBODY HAD A NERVE TO SIGN SPACEHAWK'S NAME TO A NOTE LIKE THAT!

IT WOULDN'T BE QUITE SO BAD IF THIS WERE MY CAR — INSTEAD OF MY GIRL FRIEND'S! WELL — I'VE PUT ON SPARES BEFORE, AND I CAN DO IT AGAIN!

WELL! WELL! SO NOW THE WOMEN ARE STEALIN' TIRES TOO, EH? I DIDN'T THINK IT WOULD COME TO THAT!

WAIT A MINUTE! I'M ONLY TRYING TO PUT ON A SPARE! I'M DIANA DREAN, THE MOVIE ACTRESS!

YEAH? THAT'S NOT THE NAME ON THE REGISTRATION CARD! C'MON, YOUNG WOMAN!

BUT LET ME EXPLAIN!

AT THE STATION

I CAUGHT HER JACKING UP A CAR, SERGEANT! SHE CLAIMS SHE'S DIANA DREAN, BUT YOU CAN SEE FOR YOURSELF THERE'S NO RESEMBLANCE!

WHAT IS YOUR NAME, YOUNG LADY?

I'LL GET SOME BAD PUBLICITY IF I PROVE I'M DIANA DREAN! I'D BETTER NOT SAY ANYTHING!

I WON'T TALK TILL I SEE MY LAWYER!

PUT HER IN A DETENTION ROOM!

YOU'RE NOT REALLY IN JAIL — YET! THIS IS MERELY ONE OF THE DETENTION ROOMS WHERE SUSPECTS ARE TEMPORARILY KEPT!

WONDERFUL! I SUPPOSE THOSE VERTICAL THINGS ARE MERELY CANDY BARS IN CASE I GET HUNGRY!

MY! MY! LOOK WHO'S IN THE NEXT CELL! THE MAN WHO TAKES TIRES AND BLAMES IT ON SPACEHAWK!

WHY ARE YOU HERE? FOR HARBORING DEFENSELESS TIRE THIEVES?

I WAS BLAMED FOR WHAT YOU DID, YOU CROOK! NOW I, DIANA DREAN, AM PRACTICALLY A CRIMINAL!

DIANA DREAN? WHY OF COURSE! I THOUGHT YOU LOOKED FAMILIAR! LET ME EXPLAIN ALL THIS, MISS DREAN! I —

EXPLAIN IT TO MY LAWYERS! I'LL SEE YOU LATER AT THE COURTHOUSE, AND I WON'T BE THERE TO GET A DOG LICENSE — EVEN FOR YOU!

MMM! I'D BETTER GET YOU OUT OF HERE!

SURE! I SUPPOSE YOU'LL JUST BEND BACK THE BARS AND I'LL BE FREE, EH?

THAT'S RIGHT! FIRST I'LL ENTER YOUR CELL! THEN WE'LL ESCAPE INTO THE CORRIDOR!

WELL FOR PETE'S SAKE!

NOW TO BEND THE BARS BACK INTO SHAPE!

THIS WAY! NO ONE IS AROUND!

WOW! FOR A MINUTE I THOUGHT YOU REALLY WERE SPACEHAWK, BUT ANY REAL STRONG MAN COULD BEND THOSE BARS, I GUESS!

OUTSIDE

WHERE DO YOU THINK YOU'RE TAKING ME?

BACK TO YOUR CAR!

HERE'S YOUR WHEEL! I INTENDED TO KEEP IT JUST LONG ENOUGH TO TEACH YOU THE VALUE OF RUBBER!

OKAY, STRANGER! YOU WIN! PUT IT BACK ON, AND EVERYTHING WILL BE FORGIVEN!

BACK AT THE STATION....

THAT MAN AND WOMAN ARE MISSING FROM THE DETENTION ROOM, SERGEANT!

WHAT? WHO LEFT THE DOORS UNLOCKED?

RADIO ROOM? SEND THIS MESSAGE TO ALL CARS....!....

A FEW MINUTES LATER...

THERE THEY ARE --TRYING TO STEAL ANOTHER TIRE!

P.D.

LOOK! HERE COME THE POLICE TO PLAY TAG WITH US AGAIN!

THIS IS GETTING A LITTLE TIRESOME!

SPACEHAWK SEIZES DIANA, SNAPS THE CONTROL ON HIS ANTI-GRAVITY BELT, AND.....

HELP! YOU'RE SWEEPING ME OFF MY FEET!

DON'T BE ALARMED! IT'S JUST TO GIVE YOUR ARCHES A REST!

YOU CAN SLAP A SET OF HORSE TEETH INTO MY MOUTH AND CALL ME A JAP IF THAT ISN'T SPACEHAWK!

THAT'S WHO HE CLAIMED HE WAS WHEN HE WAS AT THE STATION, BUT NO ONE BELIEVED HIM!

YOU-YOU ARE SPACEHAWK!

DID I EVER SAY I WASN'T?

I'VE PLAYED IN A LOT OF THRILLERS, BUT NEVER ONE LIKE THIS!

TSK! TSK! JUST AS THINGS GET SMOOTHED OUT, IT SEEMS THAT I HAVE TO LEAVE!

MIND IF I PARK YOU ON THIS WATER TOWER? I'M IN A HURRY TO SEE A MAN ABOUT A TIRE!

HEY! WHAT SORT OF A BRUSH-OFF IS THIS?

SORRY! I'LL BE BACK!

SPACEHAWK DIVES TO THE GROUND....

STARTING OUT AFTER ANOTHER TIRE, EH?

YOU AGAIN!

GUS RACES INTO THE OLD WAREHOUSE..

HELP! SPACEHAWK IS AFTER ME AGAIN!

GUS SEEMS TO BE A LITTLE OFF HIS NUT TONIGHT!

HE'S GOING TO BE OFF THE PAYROLL IN ABOUT THIRTY SECONDS!

WELL! WELL! A RING OF RUBBER ROBBERS!

SEE? WHAT DID I TELL YOU?

HE'S RIGHT, BOSS!

I'LL TAKE CARE OF THIS!

YOU MUGS SHOULD THANK ME FOR KNOCKING YOU OUT! BEING UNCONSCIOUS WILL SPARE YOU A LOT OF EMBARRASSMENT WHEN I TURN YOU OVER TO THE POLICE!

POW

WHOP

SMACK

MEANWHILE A CROWD COLLECTS UNDER THE WATER TANK....

IT'S DIANA DREAN!

WHAT'S SHE DOING UP THERE?

IT'S JUST A PUBLICITY STUNT!

I'LL CALL THE FIRE DEPARTMENT!

OH, DEAR! HERE COMES THE FIRE DEPARTMENT TO RESCUE ME, BUT THERE'S NO ONE TO RESCUE ME FROM THE FIRE DEPARTMENT!

WHEEEEEEOOOO.

LOOK! SOME ONE IS LEAPING UP ON THE TOWER!

NO ONE BUT **SPACEHAWK** CAN DO A THING LIKE **THAT!**

I'M BACK!

IT'S ABOUT TIME! I WAS THINKING OF KNITTING MYSELF A PARACHUTE!

THIS IS GETTING TO BE A LOT OF FUN!

I AGREE, BUT WE'D BETTER GET BACK TO THE CAR!

SOME ONE TOOK THE WHEEL YOU STARTED TO PUT BACK ON!

PROBABLY THE POLICE TOOK IT FOR SAFE-KEEPING! I'LL PUT ON THE SPARE, AND WE'LL GO FIND OUT!

WHAT'S THE MATTER, SPACEHAWK?

THERE'S NO AIR IN THE SPARE!

DO YOU KNOW WHERE I CAN GET A GOOD, RELIABLE, SENSIBLE SADDLE HORSE?

NO, BUT I DON'T MIND CARRYING YOU AROUND!

ANOTHER **SPACEHAWK** ADVENTURE NEXT MONTH

SPACEHAWK

FLYING FAST AND LOW IN HIS PONTOON-EQUIPPED ROCKET PLANE, *SPACEHAWK* IS PATROLLING THE WEST COAST OF MEXICO'S LOWER CALIFORNIA. AS HE DARTS OVER THE HILLS HE SUDDENLY COMES INTO VIEW OF AN ENEMY SUB LYING ON THE SURFACE! SURPRISED JAPS JUMP INTO ACTION WITH THE DECK GUN!

BOOM!

PREPARE FOR A PERMANENT DUCKING, YOU ASIATIC APES!

by BASIL WOLVERTON

SPACEHAWK'S POWERFUL GUNS SPIT STEEL INTO THE SUB'S VITALS!

KA-BANG!

BUT AS THE SUB GOES DOWN, SPACEHAWK SEES THAT ONE OF HIS ROCKET BARRELS HAS BEEN HIT!

WOW! THE NIPS HAVE NIPPED ME!

I'LL PUT DOWN IN THAT LITTLE BAY A FEW MILES UP THE COAST!

IN A HUT AT THE EDGE OF THE BAY.....

A PLANE IS COMING IN, KRUEGER!

HMM! NO INSIGNIA ON IT! STAY OUT OF SIGHT, BLOHM! I'LL GO OUT AND POSE AS A MEXICAN PEASANT!

A PLANE WITHOUT A PROPELLER! HOW CAN IT FLY?

WHERE YOU FROM, SEÑOR?

FROM THE STATES. HAD A LITTLE TROUBLE, AND NOW I HAVE SOME REPAIRS TO MAKE!

HOW YOU FLY WEETHOUT PROPELLER, AMIGO?

THIS IS A ROCKET PLANE!

A ROCKET PLANE? WHY, OF COURSE! AND THIS MAN MUST BE SPACE-HAWK!

AH! I KNOW YOU! YOU THE GREAT SPACEHAWK! YOU DO ME GREAT HONOR IF COME TO MY POOR HOME FOR BITE TO EAT,-YES?

THANKS, FELLOW, BUT I CAN'T SPARE THE TIME!

MAYBE YOU LOOK FOR JAP BOAT WHEECH GO UNDER WATER LIKE FEESH, EH, SEÑOR?

MAYBE.

THOSE BLACKENED GUN MUZZLES PROVE HE'S SEEN ACTION LATELY! I WONDER UNDER WHAT CIRCUMSTANCES?

KRUEGER RETURNS TO HIS HUT....

JUDGING FROM HIS EXPRESSION, I MUST HAVE MADE HIM SORE.

IT'S SPACEHAWK!

SPACEHAWK? DO YOU THINK HE SUSPECTS ANYTHING?

I DON'T KNOW, BUT WE MUST GET HIM OUT OF HERE BEFORE THE SUPPLY SHIP COMES IN TONIGHT! I TRIED TO GET HIM UP HERE WHERE WE COULD TAKE CARE OF HIM, BUT HE WOULDN'T COME!

JUST GET HIM UP WHERE I CAN GET A GOOD SHOT AT HIM, AND-

I THINK I KNOW A WAY! BE READY WITH YOUR RIFLE!

KRUEGER DASHES FROM THE SHACK....

LOOK, SEÑOR SPACEHAWK! A SHIP BURNS OUT AT SEA!

SPACEHAWK RUNS UP THE ROCKY SHORE.....

I SEE A SHIP ON THE HORIZON, BUT IT'S NOT BURNING! WHY THE EXCITEMENT?

SPACEHAWK FLATTENS HIMSELF...

THE FOOL! HE MISSED!

WHING!

CRACK!

KRUEGER RUNS FOR THE SHACK.....

MM! LOOKS AS THOUGH I'M NOT AMONG FRIENDS! I'LL STAY HERE FOR A COUPLE OF MINUTES AND SEE WHAT HAPPENS!

GIVE ME THAT RIFLE, YOU BUNGLING IDIOT!

I WOULDN'T HAVE MISSED IF HE HADN'T DUCKED SO FAST!

KRUEGER AND BLOHM GO DOWN THRU A TRAP DOOR....

COME ON! I'LL SHOW YOU HOW TO PICK THAT BIRD OFF!

AND FOLLOW A TUNNEL LEADING DOWN TOWARD THE SEA.....

THEY EMERGE AT A POINT AT THE EDGE OF THE SEA CLIFF...

THERE HE IS WATCHING THE SHACK!

I HEARD SOMETHING BEHIND ME! MAYBE I'M BEING SURROUNDED!

AS SPACEHAWK WHEELS.....

BANG!

SPLASH!

KRUEGER AND BLOHM WATCH SPACEHAWK'S BODY SINK DOWN THRU THE WATER!

THAT'S THAT! OUR COUNTRY'S AGENTS HAVE BEEN TRYING TO NAIL HIM FOR TWO YEARS, BUT IT TOOK ME TO DO IT!

WE'LL SINK HIS PLANE LATER! MEANWHILE WE MUST PREPARE FOR TONIGHT'S CALLER — THAT FREIGHTER OUT THERE!

UNDER WATER....

APPARENTLY MY LITTLE ACT FOOLED THEM INTO THINKING I WAS SHOT!

I'LL HIDE HERE AMONG THESE ROCKS UNTIL DARK. THEN I'LL TRY TO FIND OUT WHAT GOES ON AROUND HERE!

DARKNESS COMES, AND SPACEHAWK SILENTLY SWIMS TOWARD HIS SHIP....

THERE'S A LIGHT BLINKING UP THERE IN THAT HUT! IT MUST BE A SIGNAL!

IT IS! THERE'S ANOTHER BLINKING OUT AT SEA!

NOW THERE'S A LIGHT COMING OUT OF A HOLE IN THE ROCK! THIS IS GETTING INTERESTING!

CAN YOU BEAT THAT! THIS ROCK IS HOLLOW, AND FILLED WITH OIL STORAGE TANKS!

INSIDE THE ROCK.

SHOVE THE FEED LINE OUT THRU THE ROCK! THEY'RE COMING IN!

AT LAST I'VE DISCOVERED WHERE ENEMY SUBMARINES OPERATING ALONG THE PACIFIC COAST ARE GETTING THEIR FUEL!

THAT APPROACHING SHIP IS PROBABLY BRINGING IN A SUPPLY OF OIL NOW!

THE FREIGHTER COMES ALL THE WAY INTO THE DEEP BAY...

THAT YOU, KRUEGER?

RIGHT, CAPTAIN!

WHOSE PLANE IS THAT?

SPACEHAWK'S!

WHAT! YOU MEAN SPACEHAWK IS HERE?

HE IS — UNDER SEVERAL FATHOMS OF WATER OVER BY THE CLIFF! HE CAME SNOOPING AROUND, AND I SHOT HIM!

YOU SHOT SPACEHAWK? THE FUEHRER HIMSELF WILL REWARD YOU FOR SUCH A DEED!

HE SHOULD! WELL - LET'S GET BUSY AND UNLOAD THAT OIL!

A FLEXIBLE LINE IS HOOKED UP AND OIL IS PUMPED INTO THE HOLLOW ROCK.

IT'S GOOD THAT YOU ARRIVED WHEN YOU DID! A JAP SUB CAME IN LAST NIGHT AND TOOK ON QUITE A LOAD!

I WAS LUCKY TO GET OUT OF LOS ANGELES WHEN I DID! IT'S NO SMALL TRICK TO SMUGGLE OIL OUT OF THE STATES!

BY THE WAY, KRUEGER, WHAT IS SPACEHAWK'S PLANE LIKE INSIDE?

I HAVEN'T HAD TIME TO EXAMINE IT YET! LET'S HAVE A LOOK NOW!

INSIDE SPACEHAWK'S PLANE...

WHAT A SHIP!

IT CERTAINLY IS! BEFORE I SINK IT, I'LL RIP OUT A FEW OF THE INSTRUMENTS FOR SOUVENIRS!

MUSTN'T TOUCH, BOYS! IF YOU DO, I'LL SLAP YOUR WRISTS — AND YOUR FACES!

SPACEHAWK!

YOU SAID YOU SHOT HIM, KRUEGER!

I — I THOUGHT I DID!

WHAT YOU THINK DOESN'T MATTER ANY MORE! GET OVER IN THAT CORNER — BOTH OF YOU!

NOT ME! I DON'T TAKE ORDERS FROM ANY ONE BUT THE FUEHRER!

NO? FROM NOW ON THINGS WILL BE DIFFERENT!

WHOP!

HELP, MEN! WE'RE IN TROUBLE!

STOP SQUAWKING! THE DOOR IS SHUT, AND NO ONE CAN HEAR YOU!

HAVING ALREADY LOOSENED THE ROPES THAT HOLD THE PLANE TO THE SHORE, SPACEHAWK TAKES OFF!

HEY! WHERE DO YOU THINK YOU'RE TAKING US?

DON'T GET EXCITED, NAZIS! IN ANOTHER MINUTE YOU'LL BE GLAD YOU'RE IN THE AIR!

BLOHM WATCHES IN ASTONISHMENT...

I SAW KRUEGER AND THE CAPTAIN GET INTO THE PLANE, BUT I DIDN'T KNOW EITHER OF THEM COULD FLY!

SPACEHAWK SWINGS AROUND OVER THE FREIGHTER, AND SEVERS THE OIL LINE WITH INCENDIARY BULLETS! FLAMES BURST OUT TO LICK UP THE OIL THAT SPEWS OUT OVER THE WATER!

THEN HE PLANTS A BOMB!

THAT SHOULD CLEAN THE NAZI SCUM OFF YOUR SHIP, CAPTAIN!

BOOM!

EVEN THE SECRET STORAGE TANKS GO UP IN FLAMES!

TAKE A GOOD LOOK! THIS IS THE LAST YOU'LL SEE OF THAT PLACE!

YOU'LL DIE FOR THIS!

LET'S JUMP HIM AND GET HIS GUN!

THAT'S IT! HE CAN'T HANDLE BOTH OF US!

CAN'T I ?

WHAM!

SMACK!

JUST A COUPLE OF CUT-UPS, EH ? I THINK I'D BETTER DUMP YOU OUT!

NO! GIVE US A CHANCE, SPACEHAWK!

OKAY! I'LL TAKE YOU TO THE AMERICAN AUTHORITIES!

THAT MEANS DEATH, ANYWAY!

PERHAPS WE SHOULDN'T HAVE JOINED THE NAZI CAUSE, KRUEGER!

YES — I'M AFRAID WE MADE A GRAVE ERROR!

A FEW MILLION MORE LIKE YOU ARE ARE GOING TO FEEL THE SAME WAY VERY SOON!

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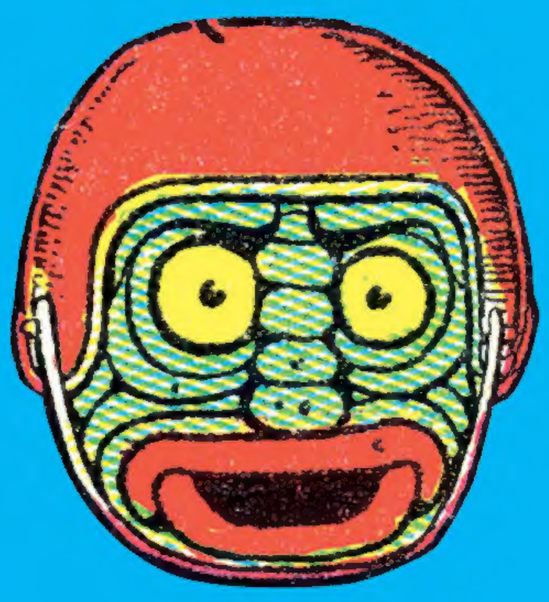

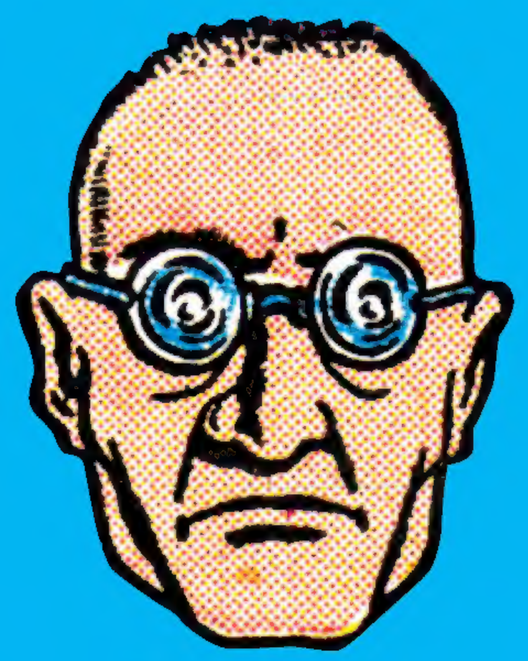

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